

JUNIOR, aged 21, requires situation; outdoors; knowledge of Photography; accustomed to good-class business. "Statim," 41 Pont-arabla Road, Lavender Hill, S.W.

MANAGER, small business, view to early succession; qualified; energetic; first-class references; experienced; S.E. or S.W. district preferred. 200/12, Office of this Paper.

BRANCH Manager or Assistant (Senior); unqualified; 22; 12 years' experience; good-class Dispensing and quick Store business; good references. 158/1, Office of this Paper.

JUNIOR or Improver seeks situation; aged 20; tall; Manchester, Leeds, Sheffield, or Birmingham preferred; good references. "Chemist," 22 Wharf Road, Grantham.

SWISS Chemist speaking fluent German and French, and with knowledge English, desires part-time situation in London; nominal salary. 193/1, Office of this Paper.

QUALIFIED Dispenser and Bookkeeper desires post with Doctor, Hospital, or Institution; good knowledge of Nursing and Midwifery. "E. G. R." (197/1), Office of this Paper.

SENIOR Counterman or Manager; middle-aged; unqualified; first-class salesman; excellent references; City or North district preferred. 53 Cleveland Park Avenue, Walthamstow.

MARRIED, reliable and experienced, good Prescriber, desires Branch management; permanency; disengaged; country preferred; aged 40. Askew, Hickling, Melton Mowbray.

FRENCH, German, Italian speaking English Chemist; 35; married; desires post in Laboratory or Pharmacy; Continent or home, or temporary seaside. "P. C. S." (194/14), Office of this Paper.

UNQUALIFIED Assistant, or Manager of Branch business; disengaged; aged 42. Apply, "Manchester" (197/12), Office of this Paper.

QUALIFIED; disengaged; 12 years' Dispensing experience (Coast and West-end); London or Coast preferred; abstainer; not afraid of work; season or permanency. "Devonia" (197/20), Office of this Paper.

QUALIFIED by Exam.; aged 48; height 5 ft. 10 in.; unmarried; salary moderate for comfortable permanency; London and Provincial experience; disengaged. Address, "Masonic," 59 Morrill Street, Hull.

BOURNEMOUTH and neighbourhood.—Young qualified Chemist wishes Part-time (exchange for hour), Locum. or to relieve Chemists, part-day weekly, or by arrangement; highest references. 197/7, Office of this Paper.

MANAGER or Assistant with view to succession; qualified; 27; 12 years' London and Provincial experience; thoroughly reliable; good references; abstainer. "Idol," 143 Arlington Road, Regent's Park, N.W.

PHARMACEUTICAL Chemist, middle-aged, of good appearance and superior address, seeks employment in town for about 8 hours daily; no objection to travel. "Pharmacist," 4 Sinclair Gardens, Kensington, W.

AS Manager for Branch or other Business affording scope for push and up-to-date ideas, by good all-round man with excellent references; aged 33; height 5 ft. 10 in. Full particulars to "Forward" (194/4), Office of this Paper.

ASSISTANT; outdoor; no Sunday duty; aged 42; height 5 ft. 7 in.; best class all-round thorough experience; sober, steady, and reliable; Extractor, Photographer; disengaged. "S. P.," Alma, Crutchfield Road, Walton-on-Thames.

MANAGER or Representative; home or abroad.—Advertiser, having experience of every branch of business, knowledge of markets, and of modern scientific requirements, desires appointment. "Commerce" (195/38), Office of this Paper.

MANAGER or Assistant; married; 30; abstainer; excellent references; quick Counterman; good Salesman; accurate Dispenser; successful Prescriber; Agricultural experience; permanency desired. "Mistara," 20 School Street, Southport.

WHOLESALE.

YOUNG man seeks situation as Clerk; good knowledge of the trade. "M. H.," 5 Thenford Street, Northampton.

SITUATION in Wholesale, or Part Share; 10 years' Retail; good experience and references. "Pharmacy," 509 Fulham Road, S.W.

TRAVELLER (qualified) is open to represent good house; salary or commission. "Euroka" (203/37), Office of this Paper.

YOUNG man (24) desires position in Wholesale firm; highest references; moderate salary. 194/26, Office of this Paper.

LABORATORY or Tincture Room; 23; 7 years' practical experience; could take charge. 194/28, Office of this Paper.

REPRESENTATIVE; good house; 10 years' Retail; 27; married; gentlemanly address. "Radium" (196/13), Office of this Paper.

MANAGER Glass and China Department, Druggist Sundry business; several years' experience. "S. H." (200/18), Office of this Paper.

ADVERTISER (20) desires Wholesale situation; 41 years good Retail; active; good references; moderate salary. 198/7, Office of this Paper.

PHARMACEUTICAL Chemist (young) desires position in Wholesale or Manufacturing firm; good references. 195/14, Office of this Paper.

REPRESENTATIVE; 23; Retail experience, Drugs or Sundries; London and Suburbs; salary and commission. Wrigley, Dovercourt, Essex.

AS Traveller, Yorkshire district; desires to represent good firm; wage and commission. Particulars, c/o Mitchell, 117 Tennyson Place, Bradford.

QUALIFIED (25) desires situation in Wholesale; Laboratory preferred; 8 years Retail; good references; London. 197/3, Office of this Paper.

REPRESENTATIVE, Good Medical and Veterinary, Travelling experience, desires appointment with first-class house. 200/34, Office of this Paper.

ADVERTISER (32), with 16 years' Wholesale and Retail experience, wishes position as Representative; height 6 ft.; of good appearance. 198/30, Office of this Paper.

YOUNG Assistant desires position in Wholesale; Society Apothecaries' qualification; Wet, Dry Counter, and Retail experience; excellent references. 197/37, Office of this Paper.

YOUNG man requires situation as Porter or Warehouseman; knowledge of drugs, proprietary articles, and packet goods; disengaged. "P.," 7 Worthington Road, Westbourne Park.

REPRESENTATIVE, young, energetic, with a thorough knowledge of the Drug and Sundries' business; capable of opening up new ground. Apply, "Frional" (195/2), Office of this Paper.

ADVERTISING.—Gentleman (aged 31), 3 years Assistant Advertisement Manager to a large London Manufacturing firm, disengaged, seeks similar position. Write, 94/45, Office of this Paper.

CLERK (30) desires situation in London; 12 years' experience Wholesale Warehouse, Patent Medicines, &c.; Bookkeeping; highest references. "L.," 34 Ockendon Road, Essex Road, Islington, N.

YOUNG gentleman, having completed full Medical course, but giving up Profession owing to slight deafness, open to travel for Drugs or Surgical Instruments, &c. Address, 198/18, Office of this Paper.

REPRESENTATIVE; Traveller's Son; 26; qualified; energetic; 8 years' experience; Retail and Mixed Wholesale; knowledge of Medical requirements. "Radiograph" (196/14), Office of this Paper.

YOUNG German (24), speaking English and French, with 4 years' experience of Wholesale Trade, desires position in Wholesale house; London or Provinces. Ernst A. Hoffmann, "Thurlestone," Morland Avenue, East Croydon.

AS Representative, or position which may lead to such; aged 28; smart, gentlemanly, and of good address; 12 years' first-class experience in Sundries, Drugs, and Photography; excellent testimonials. "Acacia" (197/36), Office of this Paper.

A FRENCHMAN living in a large French town is open to represent an English house wishing to introduce its Pharmaceutical and Photographic specialities into France; sole agency for France desired. Address, 105/73, Office of this Paper.

CHEMIST, who has until recently conducted a high-class Dispensing business, is desirous of obtaining a responsible position in a good Wholesale House, or as Traveller; aged 44; energetic; well educated, of gentlemanly appearance and address. "Fidehs" (195/28), Office of this Paper.

"Pharmaceutical Formulas."

THIS valuable work is published at the offices of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., in two volumes.

A GERMAN OPINION OF VOLUME II.—On April 1 the new regulations on the taxing of pharmaceutical specialities came into force, by means of which it is intended to make the trade in secret remedies more difficult; "secret remedies"—i.e., specialities whose composition is unknown—being made considerably dearer by the new tax. Everything else goes on its way as hitherto undisturbed, under certain conditions which cannot be entered into further here. This book is not only a judicious commentary on the medicine-stamp Acts, but it also contains a large number of formulas for specialities whose sale is not restricted—i.e., which are not subjected to duty, because by reason of the publication of the formulæ, and corresponding notification on the label, they come under the category of those "known, admitted and approved." This copious collection of formulas is assuredly of the greatest practical value to the English pharmacist. To non-English pharmacists it forms a welcome supplement to the "Pharmaceutical Formulas" of 1902—i.e., a reference-book when one wishes to obtain information on the composition of English specialities.—*Pharmaceutische Zeitung*.

To GET "P.F.," VOL. II.,

send 10s. 6d. direct to our office, or order it from any of the following, who supply it at the net published price—10s. :

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Wyleys (Limited), Coventry.

Coming Events.

Notices for insertion under this heading should be received by the Editor on Wednesday of each week.

Friday, April 15.

Tunbridge Wells Chemists' Association, Clarendon Hotel, at 8 P.M. Annual meeting.

Monday, April 18.

Dewsbury Chemists' Association, Church House, Church Street, at 8.45 P.M. Conference with Mr. Glyn-Jones and discussion on the Shop-hours Bill.

Tuesday, April 19.

Chemical Society, Royal Institution, Albemarle Street, W., at 8.30. Faraday lecture by Professor Ostwald.

Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain, 66 Russell Square, W., at 8 P.M. Mr. R. R. Beard will give a display of animated photography.

Bradford Chemists' Association, Royal Hotel, Darley Street, at 9 P.M. Mr. Glyn-Jones on "Current Pharmaceutical Topics of Interest and Importance."

Wednesday, April 20.

Newcastle-on-Tyne Chemists' Association, Hôtel Métropole, Clayton Street, at 8.30 P.M. "Deterioration of Drugs and Chemicals and Suggestions for Prevention Thereof," by Mr. J. S. Hill; "Some Commercial Specimens of Tincture of Opium" and "The Estimation of Sweet Spirit of Nitre," by Mr. G. F. Merson; "Pilula Ferri and Allied Preparations," by Mr. F. Gilderdale.

London Chemists' Association, Holborn Viaduct Hotel, at 3.30. Committee-meeting.

Western Chemists' Association, Norfolk Square Hotel, London Street, Paddington, W., at 9 P.M. Smoking-concert.

Royal Microscopical Society, 20 Hanover Square, W., at 8 P.M. Exhibition of pond-life.

Hartlepool Chemists' Association, Grand Hotel, West Hartlepool, at 7 P.M. Address by Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones. A supper will be held at 9 P.M., for which tickets (2s. 6d. each) can be had from Mr. A. Timmins, 69 Murray Street, West Hartlepool.

North Kent Chemists' Association, Royal Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend. Annual meeting and dinner. The meeting takes place at 4 P.M., and the dinner at 6.30 P.M. Tickets (5s. each) may be had from Mr. R. Feaver Clarke, Gravesend.

Chemical Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W., at 5.30 P.M. Among the papers to be read are the following: "The Vapour-density of Hydrazine Hydrate" and "The combining Volumes of Carbon Monoxide and Oxygen," by Dr. A. Scott; "A Lævorotatory Modification of Quercitol," by Dr. F. B. Power and Mr. F. H. Tutin; "The Constituents of the Essential Oil of Californian Laurel," by Dr. F. B. Power and Mr. F. H. Lees; "Some Derivatives of Umbellulone," by Mr. F. H. Lees.

Thursday, April 21.

Bournemouth Pharmaceutical Association, Albert Restaurant, at 8.30. Monthly meeting.

Chemists' Assistants' Association, 73 Newman Street, W., at 9 P.M. Mr. H. Finnemore will give "Some Practical Notes."

Lincoln Chemists' Association, Coffee Palace, at 8 P.M. Discussion on the Pharmacy Bill, Shop-hours Bill, and Council-election.

Friday, April 22.

Royal Institution of Great Britain, Albemarle Street, Piccadilly, W., at 9 P.M. Colonel David Bruce on "Sleeping-sickness in Uganda."

Blackpool Chemists' Association, Palatine Hotel, at 9 P.M. Address by Mr. F. Pilkington Sargeant.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, North British Branch, 36 York Place, Edinburgh, at 11.30 A.M. Mr. D. B. Dott, "Manganese in Zinc Sulphate"; Dr. Leonard Dobbin, "Note on the Interaction of Sodium Arsenate and Lead Acetate" and "A Soluble Potassium Ferric Arsenite"; Mr. J. G. Ferrier, "The Official Formulæ for Magnesium, Lead, and Zinc Carbonates"; Mr. John Lothian, "B.P. 1898 Notes and Suggestions." At 1 P.M. there will be an adjournment for luncheon, and at 2 P.M. a private conference on "Prospective Legislation Affecting Pharmacy" and "The Medicine-stamp Acts."

THE annual dinner of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain will take place on Tuesday, May 17, at the Whitehall Rooms of the Hôtel Métropole, S.W., at 7 P.M. Tickets (one guinea each) may be had from the Secretary, 17 Bloomsbury Square, W.C.

THE annual meeting (followed by the annual dinner) of the Thames Valley Chemists' Association is arranged for April 27, at Nuthall's Banqueting-hall, Thames Street, Kingston-on-Thames. Mr. Skewes-Cox, M.P., is to be present. Tickets (6s. each) may be had from Mr. F. Harvey, 1 Claremont Road, Surbiton.

THE annual meeting and smoking-concert of the Midland Pharmaceutical Association has been postponed to April 28.



A Weekly Journal of Pharmacy and the Drug-trade.

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AS AN OFFICIAL ORGAN

THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is supplied by subscription to the whole of the members of NINETEEN PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETIES in the British Empire, including Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and the West Indies.

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COLONIAL TRADE.

A MEMORANDUM TO ADVERTISERS.

THE best of British export business in chemicals, drugs, and allied products and manufactures is done in Colonial markets. Secure a share of it by advertising in the Colonial Issue of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

April 30, 1904.

This journal has unequalled influence with Colonial buyers, as is attested by the fact that no fewer than sixteen Societies of chemists and druggists in the British Colonies have adopted THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST as their official organ.

For full particulars apply to the Publisher, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

Summary.

AN APPEAL in the dentist-company case to the High Court is pending (p. 614).

THE "BALLAD" this week deals with the doings of pharmacists in Derby and district (p. 626).

THE QUESTIONS given at the Major examination in Edinburgh this week are printed on p. 609.

SEVERAL POINTS in regard to the wording of medicine-labels are instanced for the common good on p. 636.

PORTRAITS of four more Pharmaceutical Council candidates, and some of their views, will be found on p. 610.

THREE UNQUALIFIED PERSONS in Liverpool have been fined under the Dentists Act for using titles protected by it (p. 614).

PARTICULARS of the career of the late Mr. Andrew P. Miller, of Hobart, Tasmania, and his portrait will be found on p. 613.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER has not yet heard of Messrs. Cummings Brothers' trouble with the Board of Inland Revenue (p. 621).

SIR MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH, interviewed by representative chemists on Wednesday, objected to the company clause of the Pharmacy Bill (p. 621).

"ANTISEPTIC THROAT PASTILLES" is a dutiable title. So the Board of Inland Revenue say in a letter to Messrs. Evans, of Liverpool (p. 627).

MR. BREMRIDGE is being evicted from his house in Great Russell Street, and the Pharmaceutical Council add 200*l.* a year in lieu thereof (p. 607).

THE DRUG-AUCTIONS were resumed to-day after an interval of four weeks. There was an accumulation of "new and old" goods, and the demand on the whole was poor (p. 629).

THE BATTERSEA ANALYST has explained to the local Council that the present state of analytical knowledge is insufficient to allow an analyst to define the exact nature of an oil used in a sample of camphorated oil (p. 603).

PHARMACEUTICAL MATTERS have settled down in Orange-River Colony, and the Medical and Pharmacy Council has been appointed. We give portraits of leading pharmacists on p. 634.

SIX of the old Pharmaceutical Councillors (Mr. C. B. Allen is retiring) and seven new aspirants for honours are competing for the seven seats which become vacant in May (p. 607).

THE Pharmaceutical Society's income last year amounted to 18,062*l.*, of which 10,215*l.* was from examination fees. The amount spent was 17,707*l.*, and of this 3,292*l.* was paid for conducting the examinations (p. 608).

THE meaning of "net profits" was the point chiefly discussed in an appeal by the plaintiff in *Scobell v. Gadd*. In the result the Court set aside the verdict and judgment for the defendant given in the court below (p. 614).

TWO CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS have this week passed the Final examination for the English Bar. They are Mr. W. M. Freeman (Birmingham) and Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones (London), the latter taking first-class honours (p. 602 and p. 620).

TWO NEW ELEMENTS have been discovered by Sir William Ramsay in the Ceylon mineral referred to last week, and Professor Baskerville, of North Carolina, has discovered two similar elements in a thorium mineral. Full particulars are given on p. 635.

METALLIC CONTAMINATION in citric and tartaric acids and their salts is causing business difficulty at present. Mr. C. T. Bennett gives a useful summary of the literature on the subject, and proposes a lead-maximum of 1-6th gr. in 1 lb., describing a test for the detection of this minute amount (p. 633).

ALTHOUGH BUSINESS is quiet, changes in value are fairly numerous. Quinine is $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* dearer officially. Acetate of soda, shellac, turpentine, vanilla, and HGH peppermint-oil are dearer. Permanganate of potash is firmer. Japanese camphor is tending easier, and cod-liver oil and menthol are lower (p. 629).

THE COMPANY CLAUSE of the Pharmacy Bill is seriously threatened. The negotiations between the Privy Council and the Pharmaceutical Council are believed to be directed towards fusion of the Bill with the Government measure, and in the process the clause may be rejected or seriously modified. We show that the leading pharmaceutical councillors are averse to this (p. 618).

English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Brevities.

The wine-licence attached to the drug-stores at 27 Market Place, Hull, has been transferred from Mr. Wm. Sowerby Ransom to Mr. Wm. Hay, who has taken over the business.

Eliza Ruth Froggate (59), described as the widow of a druggist, lately living at 135 Great Titchfield Street, Marylebone, committed suicide on April 7 by jumping from the third-floor window of her house.

At the Clerkenwell Sessions on April 13, Edward Mack (18), printer, was sentenced to $3\frac{1}{2}$ years' penal servitude for having twice broken into and entered the premises of Boots Cash Chemists (Southern) (Limited), High Holborn, W.C. Mack resolutely declined in reply to the Judge to furnish any information regarding the disposal of the stolen property.

Through the prompt action of Mr. V. A. Wills, chemist and druggist, Merthyr, the life of a boy named Williams, who had fallen into the Glamorgan Canal at Georgetown on April 11, was saved. The little fellow (four years of age), who had been rescued by a man who had dived repeatedly for him, was apparently dead. Mr. Wills was attracted by the commotion, and immediately began artificial respiration, and after half an hour's continual effort succeeded in restoring animation. The boy has since quite recovered.

At the Royal Technical Institute, Salford, on April 9, the Mayor (Alderman W. Stephens) unveiled the memorial bust to the late Alderman Benjamin Robinson, manufacturing chemist. Sir Richard Mottram and a large number of aldermen and councillors were present. The Mayor said the memorial would be treasured by the inhabitants in remembrance of the many good qualities which Alderman Robinson possessed and the valuable services he had rendered to the community as Chairman of the Technical Institute and as an ex-Mayor and a member of the Salford Borough Council.

London Fires.

The annual report of the Chief Officer of the London Fire-brigade has just been submitted to the London County Council, from which it appears that there were 3,400 fires in London in the last recorded year. One fire occurred on the premises of ammonia-works caused by a light being thrown down. There were thirteen fires on chemists' premises, but only one was serious. The causes were as follows: Oil boiling over, 1; defective electric circuit, 1; explosion of chemicals, 1; hot ashes, 1; light thrown down, 1; methylated spirit coming in contact with flame, 1; overheating of gas-stove, 1; spark from fire, 1; vapour of spirit coming in contact with flame, 1; unknown, 4. One fire occurred at a drug-grinder's, caused by the friction of machinery, and one at a wholesale druggist's, owing to wax boiling over. There were five fires at the premises of mineral-water manufacturers, one of which was serious.

Law Examinations.

The Council of Legal Education reports the results of the Easter examinations held on March 22 to 25. The Final examination contains the names of two chemists and druggists—namely, Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones and Mr. W. M. Freeman, both of the Middle Temple. Mr. Glyn-Jones has obtained first-class honours, only one other receiving this high distinction. Mr. Freeman was formerly in business as a chemist in Birmingham.

"Judged" it was Strychnine.

On April 12, at Wolverhampton Police Court, John Davey was charged with having attempted to commit suicide. The Chief Constable (Captain Burnett) stated that the poison with which defendant had attempted suicide was obtained from Mr. Walton, a drysalter, of

64 Bilston Street. Defendant had said he wished to kill a dog. Mr. Walton had some time previously given poison to a woman who did actually kill herself. He was an unlicensed person, and was dabbling in poisons. It was, added the Chief Constable, criminal of him to let defendant have the poison. Mr. Walton, called as a witness, said defendant came to his shop and complained of feeling unwell. Witness gave him a draught of carbonate of soda and sal volatile. Davey then said he wanted something with which to destroy a dog, and witness gave him a mixture containing strychnine. Captain Burnett asked if the mixture contained strychnine.

Witness replied that he judged it did, but the mixture the defendant took was not sufficient to poison him. In reply to the Chief Constable, witness said he remembered a case in July, 1902, in which a woman actually committed suicide. The Chief Constable: Did you give the poison she took as a present to her? Witness: It was proved to be so. The Chief Constable: It is scandalous. Witness said that he kept the strychnine-mixture in his place for killing mice. Perhaps it was a little careless on his part, he added, to give the man the strychnine.

The Chief Constable held up a glass which contained the remains of some white powder, and also unwrapped a white paper and read the label "Poison. Walton, Patent Pure Drug Stores, Bilston Street."

Witness admitted that he made up the poison.

The Chief Constable: Does it contain strychnine?

Witness: I judge so.

Mr. Williams (one of the Magistrates): "Judge" be hanged! You must know whether it does or not.

Witness replied that he attended a drug-sale and bought a small quantity of what he judged to be strychnine in a bottle. In the present case he mixed a small amount of it with bisulphate of lime.

The Chief Constable said he was not going to ask any questions to incriminate Walton, but he would have the substance analysed and see if proceedings could be taken against him.

Davey's case was adjourned for six months.

Chemists as Public Men.

Mr. Ralph I. Cassie, chemist, 49 Newgate Street, City, has been re-elected senior churchwarden of Christ Church, Newgate Street.

Mr. G. U. Spratt, manager of Messrs. Boots' (Limited) London Road (Nottingham) branch, has been unanimously elected people's warden of St. Philip's, Nottingham.

Mr. F. H. Fresson, chemist and druggist, has been elected a member of the Stevenage Urban District Council, and has also been re-elected, for the fifth time, as parish churchwarden.

Mr. J. R. Philpotts, chemist, Newnham-on-Severn, has been re-elected on the Urban District Council. Mr. Philpotts has been a member of the local Council for twenty-seven years.

Mr. Charles Thomas Ward, chemist and dentist, has been re-elected, for the fourteenth year in succession, the people's warden of the parish church of St. Michael and All Angels, Southwick, Sussex.

Charges of Stealing.

At West Bromwich on April 9, Jabez Humphrey (15), chemist's apprentice, and Samuel Johnson (16), stoker, were remanded on a charge of stealing 10l. odd, the property of Messrs. Needhams (Limited), chemists, High Street, West Bromwich, with whom the prisoner Humphrey was an apprentice.

At Slough on April 6, Arthur Samuel Gallop was charged with stealing, between August and April last, twenty-four bottles of Elliman's embrocation, value 3l. 6s., the property of Mr. James Elliman; and Mark Stevens was charged with receiving the embrocation knowing it to have been stolen. Gallop had been employed at Messrs. Elliman's works for about ten years, and left in January last. It had been ascertained that unlabelled bottles of the embrocation had been disposed of in the town, and police investigations showed that the stolen embrocation had been sold at from 6d. to 1s. per bottle for the 2s. 9d. size.

Gallop was sentenced to one month's and Stevens to three months' hard labour.

At Marlborough Street Police Court on April 8, John Sheehan (54) was charged with stealing, by means of false messages, several bottles of scent, and other articles, worth 6*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.*, the property of Messrs. Dinneford & Co., pharmaceutical chemists, of 180 New Bond Street, W. Mr. J. W. Castle, chemist and druggist, manager of the firm, said that the prisoner used to be in the service of an old customer, and called for goods in that capacity. That was about two years ago, and he did not call again for some time. In January last he began calling again for goods, stating that the "German governess" wanted the articles for the "young ladies." They were supplied from time to time, and an account was sent in for payment. In consequence of the affair the customer appeared to have been offended, and had apparently closed his account with the firm. Subsequently the prisoner was seen in Piccadilly, and was given into custody. Other evidence showed that the accused had no authority to order the articles in January, and a sentence of one month's imprisonment was passed.

Contracts.

The following are further contracts that have been settled:

Hereford Town Council.—Mr. W. E. Haines, chemist and druggist, High Town, for drugs.

Macclesfield Town Council.—Mr. T. H. Duncalf, chemist and druggist, for druggists' sundries to the hospital.

Romford Urban District Council.—Jeyes' Sanitary Compounds Company (Limited), for disinfectants.

Yarmouth Isolation Hospital.—Mr. H. E. Goddard, Northgate Street, Yarmouth, to be chemist.

Fire.

On April 9 a fire broke out on the premises of Messrs. Sturton & Son, chemists, Bridge Street, Peterborough. The fire-brigades attended smartly, but their services were not required, as the employes had overcome the outbreak.

The Committee Defiant.

The Portsmouth Borough Asylum Committee, in the matter of the recent tragedy at their asylum, whereby four female patients lost their lives by chloral-poisoning, resolved to disobey the injunction of the Lunacy Commissioners to dismiss Miss Watson, the lady doctor. (See *C. & D.*, April 2, page 553.) The Chairman (Councillor G. Young) at a recent meeting said that on the receipt of the letter from the Lunacy Commissioners he interviewed the Town Clerk, as it appeared to him that the punishment was altogether unfair, seeing that Dr. Henderson was but a *locum-tenens* in the seven months' absence of Dr. Mumby, and would in ordinary circumstances be leaving in three days. Consequently, he would go away without any mark of disfavour, whilst the lady would be held up to opprobrium by being summarily dismissed. The Chairman said that without consulting his Committee he wrote to the Lunacy Commissioners asking them to reconsider the matter, with the result that on March 22 they informed the Town Clerk that they adhered to their decisions that both doctors should cease to be officials of the asylum. Considerable displeasure was shown by some of the other members of the committee at the action of the Chairman, but after a protracted discussion it was so far endorsed that the committee decided to inform the Lunacy Commissioners that they did not intend to act upon their recommendation and dismiss Dr. Watson. The next communication from the Commissioners is being looked forward to with interest.

The Analyst Explains.

At a meeting of the Battersea Borough Council on April 13, the solicitor reported that a summons against Samuel Brook, chemist, 35 Grayshott Road, for having, as alleged, sold camphorated oil containing an oil not having the characters of olive oil, had been withdrawn on account of the Magistrate's expression of opinion that the information contained in the certificate was insufficient (see

C. & D., March 19, page 466). The public analyst forwarded the following explanation:

The sample was certified by me to contain oil not having the characters of olive oil, 77.46 per cent. by weight; camphor, 22.54 per cent. by weight. The British Pharmacopœia requires that camphorated oil should contain at least 21.38 per cent. by weight of camphor, and that the said camphor should be dissolved in olive oil. The characters which are to be exhibited by olive oil are laid down in the British Pharmacopœia, and, having regard to this fact, the expression "not having the characters of olive oil" was inserted in the certificate. In this particular case the exact nature of the oil present could not be determined by any means available in the present state of analytical knowledge, and it was therefore not possible to give more information than that which is contained in the certificate referred to. The fact remains that the oil in the sample did not possess the characters of olive oil as laid down in the Pharmacopœia. In my opinion, it follows from this, that the article supplied was not of the nature, substance, and quality of camphorated oil as defined by the Pharmacopœia.

The Public Health Committee approved the analyst's report, and this approval was endorsed by the Council.

Birmingham Notes.

One of the most highly rented and rated shops in Birmingham has been secured by a firm of optologists, who are going to show the local opticians how it should be done—Messrs. Charnley & Co., Leicester.

The "living-in" system, so obnoxious to the assistant, is rapidly on the decline in our city. The "Mail" advances reasons for entirely abolishing it. In pharmacy there are now few in Birmingham who adopt this method.

In Birmingham testing office 19,912 weighing-machines were stamped last year. This large number is accounted for by the fact that the city is the home of the scale-trade. The local mark or verification stamp is the figure 6 under the Crown and Royal initials.

Sheffield Notes.

Mr. Job Preston, pharmaceutical chemist, has removed the branch business he has carried on at Church Street to his shop in Barker's Pool. The premises he occupied are to be pulled down.

The Corporation electric cars are providing Mr. Percy Carr, chemist and druggist, Ecclesall Road, with an exciting time. On Tuesday last a woman, stepping off a car outside his shop, was knocked down and seriously injured by a cyclist. She was taken into the shop and first aid rendered pending the arrival of the ambulance. The following day Mr. Carr was a passenger on one of the Pitsmoor cars, which ran into a van, the driver of the latter having drawn across the line unexpectedly to get out of the way of a car coming from the opposite direction. The window against which Mr. Carr was sitting was driven in, but fortunately he escaped without injury.

Mr. A. H. Allen, F.I.C., F.C.S., public analyst for Sheffield and the West Riding, is lying seriously ill.

The meeting of the Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society, fixed for Wednesday, April 13, at which Mr. F. A. Upsher Smith was to read a paper on "Amber-glass," has been postponed until Wednesday next.

The Leeds Association are apparently leaving no stone unturned to secure the election of Mr. Pilkington Sargeant to the Pharmaceutical Council. The Hon. Secretary of the local Association has received a circular from the Secretary of the Cardiff and District Association on behalf of Mr. Albert Hagon, but the Leeds people have gone a step further, and asked that a meeting of the Sheffield Association might be fixed at which they would receive a deputation in support of Mr. Sargeant's candidature, of which deputation Mr. Sargeant would be a member.

The Week's Poisonings.

Twelve fatalities from poisons (all of them suicides) have been reported during the week. In three cases unscheduled poisons were used; a Toxteth painter named Barnes having taken hydrochloric acid, while a mixture of hydrochloric acid and carbolic lotion was taken by Clara Louisa Jackson, a Paddington cabman's wife, and Mary Heywood, of Bury, killed herself by drinking liquid ammonia. The scheduled poisons employed were cyanide

of potassium, carbolic acid, and oxalic acid (causing two deaths each), chloral hydrate, laudanum and strychnine. The cyanide suicides were George Henry Clutterbuck (51), of Birmingham, and Frederick Nash, a Beckenham jeweller. Carbolic acid was taken by Charlotte Eatwell (67), an Islington widow, and by Margaret Hornby, a Preesall salt-miner's wife. The oxalic-acid victims were Mrs. Cooper, an Isleworth labourer's wife, and Robert Gardner, a stableman at the Swan Inn, Towcester. An unknown man poisoned himself with laudanum at a Brighton restaurant; chloral in overdose was taken (with suicidal intent) by William Albert Brown, a Nottingham wine and spirit merchant; and Gertrude Elizabeth Webb, of Staple Hill, Bristol, committed suicide with vermin-killer. The last-named had quarrelled with her husband, and she called at the shop of Mr. Martin Walker, chemist and druggist, of Staple Hill, saying that she wanted some poison to kill a dog. Mr. Walker supplied three-penny-worth of vermin-killer. She signed the book as "steady as a rock," and showed no signs of any intention to take the poison herself. Mr. Walker offered to poison the dog for her for a shilling, but she replied that that was more than she cared to pay. She seemed quite sprightly, and chatted about the weather and general subjects. Medical evidence having been given that the vermin-killer was the cause of death, a verdict of suicide while of unsound mind was returned.

Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Business Change.

Mr. C. Crowley, pharmaceutical chemist, has removed his business from Castle Street to more central and commodious premises in Denny Street, Tralee.

Carbolic-acid Antidote.

Mr. Allen, a Dublin veterinary surgeon, has made the interesting discovery that turpentine is a good antidote to carbolic-acid poisoning. In the case of two horses which were suffering from the effects of the acid, the turpentine speedily proved efficacious; but, better still, a blacksmith who had taken carbolic acid in mistake for porter, and to whom turpentine was administered, quickly recovered, and was able to resume his work in a short space of time. Further experiments will need to be made with the antidote before it can be relied upon in an emergency.

Limiting the Number of Contracts.

The Tipperary Guardians recently accepted the tender of the Medical Supply Company, Sligo, for the supply of appliances at 33½ per cent. discount, as against 18 per cent. offered by the old contractors, the Cork Chemical and Drug Company. The L. G. B. have now written to the Guardians stating that the Medical Supply Company, Sligo, during the past year obtained a much larger number of contracts for the supply of medical and surgical appliances to Poor-law unions in Ireland than they were in a position to carry out efficiently. In these circumstances the Board have decided that they will not permit this company to hold such a large number of contracts during the coming year. The L. G. B. have limited the number to not more than ten unions in the immediate neighbourhood of Sligo. The Guardians are to re-advertise.

The Use of Igzol.

A controversy is at present going on between the Local Government Board and the Belfast Board of Guardians with reference to the use of igazol in the treatment of consumptive patients in the workhouse. It appears that last half-year 88l. 4s. was spent on the medicine, and the Local Government Board wrote that they had grave doubts as to whether a sufficiently strong case could be made for justifying that expenditure. They stated that the merits of the drug have not secured it the recognition of the medical profession, as it is not included in the latest edition of the

British Pharmacopœia. The Local Government Board add that it will be open to any ratepayer to appear before the auditor and raise an objection to the expenditure. The medical officer (Dr. Hall) informed the Guardians that the results of igazol can be seen any day in the wards, and that there is less coughing in the consumptive wards than in the others. The doctor further said that it was the best drug he has ever used, and that he has tried all the pharmacopœial drugs. The Infirmary Committee decided that the results obtained justify the continued use of the drug, and the Guardians have since requested the Local Government Board to add the drug to their prescribed list of medicines.

Guardians and Drug-supply.

The Cork Guardians at their last meeting discussed the question of giving the drug-contract to Messrs. R. Sumner & Co., Liverpool. It was urged that the Guardians should not encourage English manufacturers; but a Guardian pointed out that it means a saving of 15 per cent. on a 1,600l. drug-bill.

The Boyle Guardians were at their last meeting provoked to a discussion on the present system of supplying medicine to the poor. It was stated that many of the poor people take medicine from force of habit, and that much physie is in consequence wasted. A suggestion was made that a list of those receiving medical relief should be published.

The Local Government Board have reminded the Castleblayney Guardians that to benefit by the recoupment scheme it is necessary that the lowest drug-tender, be accepted. The Guardians were in favour of giving the contract to Messrs. Connor & Sons, Newry, but ultimately it was decided that Messrs. Clarke, Belfast, who sent in the lowest tender, should have the contract.

A similar reminder has been sent to the Newry Guardians, who would have preferred a local firm—Messrs. Connor & Sons. Messrs. Fannin & Co., Dublin, sent in the lowest tender; but the Guardians, contending that there is only a difference of 30s. a year between the two, have appointed Messrs. Connor.

Dr. Laffon, Cashel, has applied to the Board of Guardians requesting to be furnished with a Thomas splint for the cure of hip-disease in a young girl. No such splint has, however, been provided for in the L.G.B. printed lists, though Dr. Laffon says it is indispensable in a case of this kind, and the Guardians decided to supply the splint subject to the approval of the L.G.B.

Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Appreciation.

At the conclusion of a lecture on the "Wonders of Radium," at Largo on April 4, by Mr. P. Fenton, chemist, Lundin Links, the lecturer was presented with a golfing outfit, as a mark of appreciation for his lectures on botany and chemistry delivered during the past three months.

Successful Students.

In the list published last Saturday of Edinburgh medical students who have passed the First Professional examination, the names of Messrs. Peter Gomi and H. M. Spoor appear. Both passed with distinction (only four getting this coveted honour), and both are medallists—Mr. Gomi in practical chemistry and Mr. Spoor in theoretical. They passed the Minor last July from the Royal Dispensary School of Pharmacy.

The Pharmacy Bill.

The directors of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture at their meeting last week had on their programme of business for consideration several Bills now before Parliament. One of these was the Pharmacy Bill. By the time it was reached members were anxious to get away, and they agreed to petition against it on the ground that

its object was to prevent ironmongers and others from selling sheep-dips so that chemists might have a monopoly.

Chemists and the New Licensing Act.

At Dumbarton Burgh Licensing Court on Tuesday, April 12, Mr. Patrick Mitchell, chemist, asked for a grocer's licence for a store adjoining his shop in Church Street. His agent stated that Mr. Mitchell had held an Exeise licence for nine years for the sale of medicated wines, but the new Licensing Act has done away with this form of licence, and he must now have a certificate granted by a magistrate. Mr. Mitchell undertook only to deal in medicated wines. Bailie Miller moved that the licence be refused, and Bailie Macallister moved to grant it; but the latter motion failed to find a seconder, and the application was refused.

Licences to Chemists.

At the Edinburgh Licensing Court held on Tuesday, April 12, the following licences were renewed: David Brown, for J. F. Macfarlan & Co., wholesale chemists, 111 Abbeyhill (grocer's licence); George Duncan Mackay, for John Mackay & Co., wholesale chemists, 4 Canning Street (grocer's licence); Robert Dick, for Duncan, Flockhart & Co., wholesale chemists, 104 and 106 South Back, Canongate; William Inman, for Inman's Stores (Limited) (wine-licences for premises at 1 South Clerk Street, 12 Earl Grey Street, 46 Leith Street, and 48 Shandwick Place); James Arthur Gibson, for Gibson & Co., chemists (wine-licence for premises at 19 South Clerk Street); and T. Connell Smith, for T. & H. Smith & Co., wholesale chemists (grocer's licence for 19 and 21 Duke Street.)

Dundee Notes.

At the meeting of the Newport Camera Club on Thursday, April 7, Mrs. James Fernie (wife of a local chemist) gave a lantern lecture on a "Tour Round the World." Mrs. Fernie proved herself not only an able speaker, but one who had made the most of her opportunities of studying the various peoples and places of the world. Sir John Leng, M.P., paid Mrs. Fernie a high tribute at the close of the lecture.

The following paragraph in a local evening paper is said to refer to a chemist:

Congratulation to a douce Dundee ex-Magistrate whose approaching wedding *en secondes nocces* has created a mild sensation in social circles, both in the city and on the other side of the Tay. His *fiancée* is a West-end lady of much popularity and agreeable manners, and the proposed alliance has all the elements of success.

Glasgow Notes.

The local Association's contemplated summer trip is already exciting much pleasurable anticipation. It is understood that the Association will make a special effort to promote a record outing.

There was a good attendance at Dr. R. Park's lecture before the Glasgow Optical Society on April 13. The lecturer gave an excellent exposition of his subject, "Light, Sight, and the Organs of Vision."

Local chemist-opticians are favourably disposed towards the creation of a separate organisation to represent their interests, and to co-operate when feasible with kindred bodies. It is suggested that such an organisation could be run as a section of local pharmaceutical associations.

At a meeting of Glasgow Parish Council on Tuesday, April 12, a scheme for grading of salaries of officials in the service of the Council was approved. According to this scheme the salary of the principal dispenser in the Inspectors' Department rises from 110*l.* on appointment, by increments of 10*l.* and 20*l.*, to 200*l.* after fifteen years' service; that of the first assistant dispenser from 100*l.*, by 5*l.* and 10*l.* increments, to 150*l.*; and assistant and district dispensers, 52*l.* to 80*l.* after nine years' service. In the general hospital at Stobhill the dispenser's salary will rise from 75*l.* to 100*l.* after twelve years' service; and at Woodilee and Gartloch Asylums the dispensers will receive from 20*l.* on appointment to 30*l.* after four years' service, with board and lodgings.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

FLUID EXTRACT OF LIQUORICE.—M. Bourquelot communicated to the Paris Society of Pharmacy a note by M. Guigues, of Beyrouth (Syria), on this fluid extract. The author prefers the method of preparation indicated in the U.S. Pharmacopœia. The process given in the B.P., he holds, does not permit of so complete an extraction of the glycyrrhizin.

FRAUDS ON WHOLESALE DRUGGISTS.—Goods to the amount of half a million francs (20,000*l.*) are said to have been obtained under false pretences by J. Delahaye, *alias* Laurent Gossec, *alias* Jules Hariste, *alias* Alexandre Agene—whatever his real name may be matters little, as he and his wife were arrested last week. He appears to have operated chiefly in Brittany, his *modus operandi* being to represent himself as a pharmacist, and pass orders to wholesale drug-houses.

A HORSE IN A PHARMACY.—Why cocotte (the Parisian cab-horse) so particularly favours pharmacies in the rue Lafayette has yet to be explained, but the second case of this kind occurred in that thoroughfare last week. The horse was frightened by one of the big steam-trams, and became uncontrollable. After a wild rush down the street the animal swerved suddenly, and threw itself into the frontage of the pharmacy at the corner of the rue Bourdaloue. The horse was practically unhurt, but the cab, bottles, and carboys were not worth much afterwards.

BRITISH PHARMACY IN MANCHURIA.—The "Temps" war correspondent tells how the treaty of Tientsin opened the port of Newchwang to foreign commerce, and adds: "English traders took nearly all the business. The great firm of Bush, descending from father to son, is the type of these families of bold business men (*marchands audacieux*) set up in new and far-off lands . . . reuniting all branches . . . proprietors of hotels and vast shops where one finds all one needs, from pharmaceuticals to canned goods, books, revolvers, shoes, and clothes, at once the Louvre, the Pharmacie Centrale, and Felix Potin (the big Paris grocer). One must witness this power of business, this intensity of creation, in a country where everything has yet to be done, and where all is done, to realise what sturdy scions (*rudes hommes*) this Anglo-Saxon race possesses!"

THE GALEN CLUB held their first smoking-concert on Saturday night, April 9, at the English Tea-rooms in the Passage Choiseul, off the Avenue de l'Opéra. The President (Mr. George Ashton) was in the chair, and was supported by Mr. Le Bosquet. Fifteen members and several visitors were present. A grand piano with a pianist attachment was provided, and the instrumental music and the accompaniments of the English and American songs sung by the musical members present were rendered by Messrs. Hatzfeld and Martlew. During an interval the President briefly outlined the history and objects of the Club. The songs and choruses were joined in with great spirit until the small hours, and the proceedings closed with "God save the King," "Auld Lang Syne" and the "Marseillaise."

PHARMACY IN MADAGASCAR.—Proposed pharmacy regulations for the new French protectorate have been submitted by M. Doumergue, Minister of Colonies, for signature by President Loubet. The regulations stipulate that all practising pharmacy shall be qualified as the law of April 19, 1898, directs, register their titles, only keep one open shop, keep a poison-book and locked poison-cupboard, and the shop shall be inspected once a year. Pharmacists with foreign diplomas already in business in Madagascar may be authorised to continue to exercise their profession under conditions to be fixed later on by a decree of the Governor-General. The penalty for unauthorised practice of pharmacy is to be a fine of 20*l.* to 40*l.* for the first offence; and 40*l.* to 80*l.*, with or without a week's to six months' imprisonment, if the offence is repeated.

Colonial and Foreign News.

THE RUSSIAN PHARMACOPŒIA.—The "Pharmaceutische Zeitung" reports that the Russian Pharmaceutical Society has appointed a committee to revise the Russian Pharmacopœia and to collect and prepare material for a new edition. Physicians, pharmacists, and chemists are to share in the work.

PHARMACIES IN SPAIN.—According to statistics published in "El Memorandum" and quoted by the "Pharmaceutische Zeitung," Barcelona has 223 pharmacies to 824,000 inhabitants, Madrid 197 to 600,000, Malaga 19 to 125,570, Murcia 15 to 108,470, Seville 33 to 146,200, Valencia 41 to 190,700, Bilbao 33 to 100,120, and Saragossa 29 to 98,270.

THE DRUGS PERSIANS USE.—According to a report by the Belgian Ambassador at Teheran on the Persian imports of medicines, the yearly consumption of quinine salts in Persia is estimated at about 10,000 kilos. Compressed drugs, pills, tablets, &c., are obtained chiefly from Great Britain. There is a large demand in Persia for salts of mercury and medicated wines.

PHARMACEUTICAL SPECIALITIES IN PORTUGAL.—The Chimico-Pharmaceutical Society of Porto has protested warmly against the imposition of 5 per cent. import-duty on chemical products, in place of the "seal," in respect to which, it appears, there was some difficulty as to classification at the Custom-house for foreign goods. The protest suggests that the Government should appoint competent chemists and attach them to the Custom-house staffs.

MEDICINAL SPECIALITIES FOR GERMANY.—The new German tariff of 12*l.* 10*s.* per cwt. import-duty on imported medicinal secret remedies has not yet been put into force generally, because there has been no official definition of what secret remedies are. This is now provided in an official "Guide," which states that they are prepared medicines or other prepared pharmaceutical products intended for the prevention or cure of human or animal illnesses. The following are enumerated:

Decoctions and infusions, extracts in solid or liquid form, dry mixtures of salts or reduced substances, or both; lotions, fluid mixtures, and solutions, including mixed balsam, honey preparations and syrups, filled capsules, electuaries, liniments, pastilles, tablets, pills and grains, plasters and salves, suppositories, &c.

These are in addition to the ninety-five articles (*C. & D.*, July 25, 1903, page 140) which formed the basis of the regulations issued by the Federal Council in August, 1903. For Custom-house purposes it is not necessary that the composition or actual or alleged effective constituent parts of a remedy be declared, but if the consumers are kept in darkness respecting the essential properties of a remedy, they are thrown into an erroneous belief as to curative power of the medicine. Consequently, in addition to those preparations whose composition is not known or cannot be determined without further action, such remedies can be handled as secret preparations which, as shown by experience, frequently undergo changes in composition, and cannot generally exercise a curative effect in regard to the diseases for which they are recommended, or are either sold with deceptive statements as to their curative properties, contain toxic constituents, or are sold at a price which is extraordinarily high compared with the cost of production. On the other hand, the following preparations are not to be regarded as secret remedies:

(1) Those which are contained in the German Pharmacopœia and are offered under the designations employed therein; (2) those which have found general recognition in medical science and practice; and (3) those which are solely proffered as disinfectants, cosmetics, food and luxuries, or strengthening remedies.

In doubtful cases the Customs officials are not to ask the opinions of experts (doctors or apothekers), and in event of differences or doubts the full duty is to be imposed. It is then that the importers should be able to prove within a specified time that the articles are not secret remedies.

Canadian Notes.

PETROLEUM in paying quantities has been discovered in the Swift Current district, a few miles to the south of Cardston, Alberta. The oil is a thick dark-brown fluid with a strong smell, and Oil-inspector Ryan, of the Great Northern Railway, says it is the finest machine oil in the world.

A FIRE occurred at the Durham Rubber-factory, Bowmanville, Ontario, on March 28, the cause being an explosion in the cement-mixing building. It is supposed that in operating the churn the friction caused a spark, which ignited the gasoline used in the cement mixture. A large quantity of crude rubber and other materials stored in the building was destroyed. The building itself escaped with slight damage.

COMBINE IN CANADIAN OILS.—The amalgamation is gazetted of four Canadian oil companies—viz., the Brant Hamilton Company, of Toronto; the Canadian Oil Company; the Canadian Consolidated Company of Hamilton; and the Sun Oil-manufacturing Company, of Hamilton. The capital stock of the company is put at \$15,000,000, divided into 10,000 shares. The new company is incorporated as the Canadian Consolidated Oil Company, but it is stated that the word "consolidated" will be dropped. The head offices of the new company will be in Toronto. The provisional directors are Messrs. J. Kerr (Petrolia), E. R. Clarkson, T. Ramsay, and L. Bauer (Hamilton), D. B. Hanna, J. J. Main, W. D. Lummis, T. H. Hamilton, Joseph Wright, and W. P. Bull (Toronto), W. J. Lovering (Coldwater), J. Playfair (Midland), W. J. Sheppard (Waubaushene), W. Irwin and R. R. Hall (Peterborough). It is stated that four other companies are expected to join the amalgamation—namely, the Gall-Schneider Company, of Montreal; the Union Petroleum Company, of Canada; the Walker Oil Company, of Winnipeg; and the Sterling Oil-works, of Marietta.

Personalities.

MR. J. YOUNG, chemist, Torquay, has been re-elected a director of the Torquay Gas Company.

BROTHER ROBERT HARDING, chemist and druggist, has been installed W.M. of the Eastbourne Lodge of Mark Master Masons.

MR. ERNEST COHEN, of Messrs. Eckersley & Sons, eucalyptus-oil distillers, St. Arnaud and Melbourne, Victoria, is now in London.

MR. JOHN GIBSON, F.C.S., chemist and druggist, Hexham, is to be the judge of the Photographic Section at the forthcoming Arts and Crafts Exhibition at Haultwhistle.

MR. ERNEST W. H. JAMES, chemist and druggist, with Messrs. Randall & Son (Limited), Southampton, leaves shortly to take up an appointment with Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Hong Kong.

MR. COUNCILLOR AGAR, chemist and druggist, Mansfield, who has been seriously ill for the past three months, has now recovered sufficiently to be able to remove to Paignton, where it is hoped he will rapidly regain strength.

THE fiftieth anniversary of Sir H. E. Roscoe's graduation at Heidelberg is to be celebrated on April 22 by a reception at the Whitworth Hall, Manchester, at which a congratulatory address will be presented from his old pupils, as well as addresses from a number of universities, colleges, and learned societies.

THE funeral of the late Mr. Aird, of Messrs. Davy, Hill & Co., took place at Elmer's End on Monday, April 11, when Mr. Alan Hicks and several members of the firm's staff were present. Mr. Aird was forty-three years with the firm. A very large number of customers have written to the firm testifying to the high esteem and regard in which they held Mr. Aird.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

COUNCIL-MEETING.

WEDNESDAY'S meeting was a short one, and as nothing transpired about the negotiations with the Privy Council in regard to the Pharmacy Bill it cannot be said to have been an altogether satisfactory sitting. Grants amounting to 84*l.* 5*s.* were made from the Benevolent Fund, and special subscriptions of 92*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* announced as having been received during last month. The Secretary is to be "evicted" from his apartments in the Society's house and is to have in place of them an annual allowance of 200*l.* There were forty-one nominations for councillorship; of these thirty-three were valid, but only thirteen of the nominees are willing to accept office if elected. Mr. Allen, the Vice-President, one of the retiring councillors, to the regret of his fellow-councillors is not seeking re-election. Three distinguished scientists—Professor Bourquelot, Sir H. D. Littlejohn, and Dr. J. W. Swan—have been selected for election next month as honorary members. Several corresponding members were also selected.

A MEETING of the Council was held on April 13 at 16 Bloomsbury Square, W.C. There were present the President (Mr. S. R. Atkins), the Vice-President (Mr. C. B. Allen), the Treasurer (Mr. Walter Hills), and Messrs. A. S. Campkin, A. Cooper, O. Corder, W. G. Cross, W. L. Currie, R. L. Gifford, W. S. Glyn-Jones, J. F. Harrington, G. T. W. Newsholme, A. Southall, D. Storrar, C. Symes, and A. C. Wootton.

The minutes of the previous meeting were taken as read, and confirmed.

THE NEW COUNCILLOR.

The PRESIDENT then gave a hearty greeting to Mr. A. S. Campkin, the new member, adding that Mr. Campkin would bring to the Council not only his wide knowledge of pharmacy but an exceptional acquaintance with public business. (Applause.)

Mr. CAMPKIN (who sits between Mr. Currie and Mr. Glyn-Jones) thanked the President for his kind introduction and for the too flattering terms in which he had spoken of him on more than one occasion. He (the speaker) hoped the Council would never regret having co-opted him, and also thanked the members who supported him when a candidate at previous elections. (Hear, hear.)

The PRESIDENT here mentioned that he had received communications expressing inability to be present at the Council-meeting from Mr. Rymer Young, Mr. C. J. Park, Mr. R. A. Robinson, and Mr. Carteighe.

ELECTIONS AND RESTORATIONS.

Some seventy-three members and eight student-associates were next elected.

Four persons were restored to the register and 184 to their former positions in the Society.

EXAMINATION REPORT.

Reference was then made to Dr. Thomas Stevenson's report on the examinations in London. The Government Visitor had carefully calculated the percentages of failures in the Minor and Major, and, referring to the rejections in practical pharmacy and dispensing (23.3), remarked, "My often-expressed opinion, that the training of the future chemist and druggist is too often defective, remains unshaken."

The PRESIDENT said the report was a very satisfactory one, and showed that the Visitor was thoroughly satisfied with the mode and method of the examinations.

A copy of the report is to be sent to each of the Boards of Examiners.

FINANCE.

The report of the Finance Committee was presented by the President (in the absence of Mr. Robinson). The report showed a balance on the General Fund account of 2,905*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.*, and submitted for payment accounts amounting to 1,908*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.*, made up as follows:

	£	s.	d.
On behalf of the "Journal" ...	1,008	19	10
School... ..	54	12	9
House... ..	31	7	7
Law charges	47	17	0
Stationery	38	15	0
Salaries	202	18	4
Current expenses	300	0	0
Museum and Library	6	2	1
Compendium... ..	13	16	8
"Journal" Formulary... ..	18	1	0
Rent	186	4	2

The Benevolent Fund showed a balance of 844*l.* 17*s.*, the Donation account 245*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.*, and the Orphan Fund 95*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.*

The auditors' report was also submitted by the Finance Committee, and the report and recommendations were agreed to.

BENEVOLENCE.

The report of the committee administering the Benevolent Fund was next taken in committee, after which

The VICE-PRESIDENT said of the cases considered none were refused, and grants amounting to 84*l.* 5*s.* were made. The grants were one of 20*l.*, three of 13*l.*, two of 10*l.*, and one of 5*l.* 5*s.* Two annuitants (Mrs. Lidwell and Mr. Field) have died during the month.

The report was adopted.

The SECRETARY then read out the following list of special subscriptions recently received:

	£	s.	d.
Carlisle Association (balance from old Association)... ..	5	9	6
Mr. Watson-Will (proceeds of Football Smoking-concert)... ..	5	0	0
Wakefield Association	2	13	6
North Staffs Association... ..	2	2	0
East Aberdeenshire Association	2	0	0
Leeds Association	75	2	6

The last item includes a special subscription of fifty guineas from Messrs. Goodall, Backhouse & Co.

The VICE-PRESIDENT said the fund was much indebted to these donors, and he hoped the process of collecting funds at social gatherings would continue.

The PRESIDENT added that special thanks were due to Messrs. Goodall, Backhouse & Co. for their gracious and helpful contribution to the fund.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

The report of the Library, Museum, School, and House Committee contained a reference to the attendances at the Society's libraries and museums. The committee considered the question of new accommodation for the Secretary, whose apartments are required in connection with the development of the official journal. After consideration the committee recommend that 200*l.* be granted to the Secretary as a rent allowance. The adaptation of the vacated rooms is deferred for further consideration. A new regulation for the Jacob Bell scholarship was also included in the report as follows:

A competitor who has entered for the Minor examination shall not be awarded a Bell Scholarship, and a Bell Scholar entering for the Minor examination within six months of the commencement of the session for which his scholarship is tenable shall forfeit the scholarship.

Professor Green reported that Mr. T. G. Hill is temporarily engaged as demonstrator in place of Mr. Chandler, who has left. The plans and estimates in connection with the proposed pharmaceutical laboratory were not further advanced, as the School Visitor had not presented his report. Covers are to be provided for the balances in the balance-room.

The PRESIDENT said the new arrangement with the Secretary was incidental to the publication of the 'Journal' on the Society's premises. It had been found necessary to evict the Secretary and make him an allowance for

rent and rates. He (the Secretary) had many tender and gracious associations with the house, but had kindly and honourably said he would not stand in the way of the interests of the Society.

Dr. SYMES suggested that a place could be found in the basement for the pharmaceutical laboratory.

The report was received and adopted.

DIVISIONAL SECRETARY.

Mr. O. W. Evans was appointed Divisional Secretary for South Birmingham, the President mentioning that Mr. Evans had rendered valuable political aid to the Society, and it was a good thing to secure his help in a district hitherto unrepresented.

NOMINATIONS FOR COUNCIL.

The SECRETARY, in accordance with the by-laws, reported that he had received forty-one nominations for the seven vacant seats on the Council. Of these thirty-three were valid, and the following thirteen have expressed their willingness to accept office if elected.

Atkins, S. R., Salisbury	Newsholme, G. T. W., Sheffield
Betty, R. B., Camden Town, N.W.	Paterson, J., Aberdeen
Corder, O., Norwich	Pickering, C. E., St. John's Wood, N.W.
Currie, W. L., Glasgow	Robinson, R. A., Brompton Road, S.W.
Gibson, W. H., Brighton	Sargeant, F. P., Leeds
Gifford, R. L., Blackburn	
Hagon, A., Cardiff	
Higgs, A., Kingston-on-Thames	

NOMINATIONS FOR AUDITORS.

Messrs. I. Bourdas, Chas. Hodgkinson, F. H. Lescher, Chas. Umney, and Francis Yates were nominated as auditors, and have expressed their willingness to accept office if elected.

The PRESIDENT said that amongst the names of those who have not expressed their willingness to accept office he observed that of Mr. C. B. Allen, the Vice-President. He sincerely regretted to hear that Mr. Allen feels unable to continue his office as member of the Council. He (the speaker) was deeply indebted to Mr. Allen for his faithful, exact, and continuous service to the Society. The loss is almost irreparable. The reasons for the step had not been communicated to him (the President), but he trusted it was not because of any shadow in Mr. Allen's life.

Mr. CROSS supplemented the President's remarks by expressing the hope that Mr. Allen's retirement was only temporary, and that he would soon rejoin the Council. (Hear, hear.)

The VICE-PRESIDENT thanked the President for his kind expressions, which he felt were ample reward for the work he (the speaker) had done on the Council. Continuing, Mr. Allen said that the demands upon his time were so great that he was unable to keep up his work for the Council. He had had several warnings that it was impossible to do as much work as formerly, and necessary for him to have some rest.

The Treasurer was instructed to pay the Burroughs Scholar 25*l.*, the second moiety of the scholarship.

COUNCIL PRIZES.

The following awards were made on the recommendation of the Dean of the School:

Botany: Silver medal, Mr. F. G. C. Walker.
Chemistry (including Physics): Silver medal, Mr. F. G. C. Walker; Certificates of honour, Miss Margaret I. Bcdell and Miss Hilda B. Caws.

Practical Chemistry: Silver medal, Mr. Alfred Wade; Certificate of honour, Mr. F. G. C. Walker and Miss Hilda B. Caws.

Materia Medica: Silver medal, Mr. F. G. C. Walker; Certificates of honour, Mr. A. S. Clarke and Miss Margaret I. Bcdell.

THE ORGANISING SECRETARY.

The General Purposes Committee's report contained a reference to the scheme for an Organising Secretary proposed by Mr. Gifford. The committee do not deem it expedient to recommend a special officer as Organising Secretary, because the matter of organising is already being

practically developed under Mr. Newsholme's scheme of local organisation.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

The names of Professor Bourquetot, Sir H. D. Littlejohn, and Dr. J. W. Swan were selected for election next month as honorary members, and the following were selected as corresponding members:

Perrot, Emile, Paris; Schumann, Carl, Berlin; Beckurts, Heinrich, Brunswick; Hartwich, Carl, Zürich; Dunn, S. T., Curator Hong-Kong Botanical Gardens; Parker, Dr. G. W., British Guiana.

THE PHARMACY BILL.

Mr. WOOTTON asked if the Parliamentary Committee intended to make any statement as to the progress of the Pharmacy Bill?

The PRESIDENT: That will come later on—in committee.

Mr. WOOTTON suggested that, as mention had been made of negotiations between the Privy Council and the Pharmaceutical Society, it would be advisable that a public statement should be made. Some such simple statement as was made by Mr. Carteighe on the previous evening would suit the purpose.

The conversation was continued in committee, but nothing further was made public.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A letter was received from the Mayor of Folkestone inviting the Society to send delegates to the Congress of the Royal Institute of Public Health in July next.

Mr. GLYN-JONES said he was the delegate of the Society to the Congress at Exeter two years ago, and he did not think the Congress dealt with subjects with which pharmacy was very closely connected. The Congress was almost entirely of representatives of public bodies. He (the speaker) read a paper on the Pharmacy Acts and resolutions were passed, but he had not heard of any action resulting.

Mr. CROSS thought it was wise to associate local chemists with such meetings.

The letter was sent for consideration to the Library Committee.

The Joint Matriculation Board of the Victoria University of Manchester applied for recognition of the certificates in preliminary knowledge granted by the Board under its new powers.

The PRESIDENT explained that the name only of the examination had been changed.

The matter is to be considered by the new Education Committee.

The Public Dispensers' Association enclosed a copy of a letter sent to the President of the Local Government Board, urging the necessity for the appointment of only registered chemists as dispensers in public institutions.

The Stockport Chemists' Association also wrote, expressing general approval of the Pharmacy Bill.

This concluded the public business.

Revenue Account of the Society, 1903.

EXPENDITURE.

	£	s.	d.
To Annuities	800	0	0
Carriage of Books and Parcels	11	13	1
Certificates of Death	22	4	0
Examinations: Minor and Major:—			
Fees to Examiners and Travelling Expenses—			
England and Wales	1,853	10	1
Scotland	795	19	6
Refreshments—England and Wales	97	0	5
Scotland	52	15	7
Apparatus, Drugs, Chemicals, Printing, and sundry charges—England and Wales	334	11	9
Scotland	159	2	1
[Total £3,292 19 <i>s.</i> 5 <i>d.</i>]			
Gas, Electric Light, Water, Coal, Cleaning Materials, &c.	396	16	10
House Servants—Wages	297	16	2
Journal:—Balance of Account	2,156	10	3
Law Costs	564	13	0
Library:—Librarian's Salary	285	0	0
Purchase and Binding of Books	96	16	9
Library Association Meeting	10	10	0
[Total £392 6 <i>s.</i> 9 <i>d.</i>]			

Furniture	51	0	0
Museum:—			
Curator's Salary	400	0	0
Museums' Association Meeting... ..	10	0	0
Assistant's Wages and Sundry Expenses for Bottles, &c....	113	2	9
[Total £523 2s. 9d.]			
North British Branch:—			
Assistant Secretary and Clerk—Salaries ...	378	13	4
Taxes and Insurance	71	5	8
Members of Executive—Travelling Expenses, &c....	62	11	6
Fuel, Light, Water, Cleaning, Service, and Miscellaneous Expenses	299	17	10
[Total £812 8s. 4d.]			
Evening and other Meetings... ..	88	11	10
Postage:—General	252	9	1
Journal	870	1	11
[Total £1,122 11s.]			
Register—Balance of Account	16	16	1
Rent, Taxes, and Insurance	797	1	9
Premium on Leasehold Redemption Policies ...	128	2	6
Repairs and Alterations	852	9	6
Electric Service and Fittings... ..	92	17	2
Salaries:—Secretary and Registrar... ..	600	0	0
Clerks... ..	1,115	7	0
School of Pharmacy:—			
Stipends of Professors and Share of Fees... ..	1,172	3	0
Lecturer, Assistant Lecturer and Demonstrators, and Wages of Porters	549	14	0
Apparatus, Chemicals, Specimens for Lecture Classes, Prize Medals, Certificates, and printing and posting Prospectuses... ..	619	17	6
[Total £2,341 14s. 6d.]			
Stationery, Engraving, Printing and Office Expenses... ..	354	11	11
Calendar: Balance of Account	127	10	7
Sundries	9	0	5
Cost of conducting Scholarship Examinations... ..	17	15	9
Medals—Council and Herbarium Prizes... ..	5	9	0
Travelling Expenses—Council and Committees	435	19	7
Refreshments for Council	41	18	3
Local Organisation Expenses: Meetings, &c. ...	192	9	9
Telephone Service... ..	26	0	0
"Compendium"	19	8	6
	17,707	5	8
Balance added to Accumulated Funds	355	10	2
Total	£18,062	15	10
INCOME.			
	£	s.	d.
By Examination Fees:—			
1,728 Minor... ..	9,549	10	0
73 Major	208	0	0
194 Registration Fees as Apprentices or Students	407	8	0
Restoration Fees	50	8	0
Total £10,215 6s.]			
Interest on Investments:—			
Ground Rents... ..	147	5	6
Rent of 15 Bloomsbury Square	184	12	2
Deposit Account (L. & W. Bank)	28	5	8
[Total £360 3s. 4d.]			
School Fees... ..	1,141	13	0
Subscriptions:—			
5,499 Members	5,773	19	0
589 Student Associates... ..	309	4	6
Life Subscriptions	262	10	0
[Total £6,345 13s. 6d.]			
	£18,062	15	10

THE BALANCE-SHEET OF THE GENERAL FUND

shows that the assets of the Society, consisting of ground-rents, freehold houses in Edinburgh, and leasehold premises in London, amount to 35,727*l.* 15*s.* 8*d.*; sundry debtors of the Society 3,012*l.* 9*s.* 9*d.*; and cash in hand on December 31, 1903, 3,477*l.* 14*s.* 9*d.* Total, 42,218*l.* 0*s.* 2*d.*, at which sum the liabilities also stand—viz., 1,548*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.* to sundry creditors, 2,328*l.* 7*s.* examination-fees in advance, 737*l.* 14*s.* school-fees in advance. Accumulated fund, 37,032*l.* 12*s.* due to Treasurer, &c., 70*l.* 18*s.* 5*d.*, and Formulary, 500*l.*

BENEVOLENT FUND.

During the year the receipts amounted to 3,191*l.* 19*s.* 3*d.*, made up of subscriptions, 1,592*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.*; ground-rents, 1,340*l.* 2*s.*; dividends, 137*l.* 9*s.* 1*d.*; rent of The Elms, Straw-

bery Hill, 121*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* The expenditure for the year included 1,897*l.* 10*s.* for annuities; grants, 1,060*l.* 8*s.*; interest, 357*l.*; stationery, &c., 43*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.*; law and professional charges, 60*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.* The assets of the fund amount to 44,770*l.* The liabilities include 9,000*l.* borrowed from the Orphan Fund and Westminster Bank.

MAJOR EXAMINATION.

FOLLOWING are abstracts of the questions given at the written examination in Edinburgh on April 11 and 12.

BOTANY.

1. Describe transverse structure of Angiosperm anther with drawings. Explain the use of parts.
2. Discuss nature and sources of nitrogen for plants, and means by which the supply is drafted in.
3. Describe construction of papilionaceous flower, and explain the way in which the mechanism may work in various types.

Practical.

- (1) Make preparations with sketches and explanatory references illustrating structure of specimen A. (2) Refer the plants B and C to their natural classification, with reasons. (3) Describe in detail specimen D.

MATERIA MEDICA.

1. How determine pharmaceutical value, isolate chief active constituents, of senna-leaves and belladonna-root.
2. What is Homatropine, and how is it prepared?
3. How ascertain genuineness of cod-liver oil, balsam of Peru, yellow beeswax, and lupulin?

Practical.

1. Identify root submitted, make sections, and draw and describe them. (2) Identify and describe powder submitted, and report on its purity.

CHEMISTRY.

Part I.

(Six questions only to be attempted, two from Part II.)

1. How prepare phosphorous anhydride? Why is it P_2O_3 and not P_2O_5 ?
2. Give two methods for analytical separation of nickel from cobalt. Point out difference in chemical character upon which the separation depends.
3. Compare and contrast the chlorides of carbon and of silicon, physically and chemically, and methods of preparation.
4. How is hypophosphorous acid prepared? Describe behaviour of hypophosphites when heated.
5. Describe behaviour of cane sugar, glucose, fructose, lactose, and maltose, with Fehling's solution.

Part II.

6. Constitution of citric acid, and products by action of heat.
7. Give two methods for preparing benzaldehyde, and compare behaviour with acetaldehyde.
8. How is cyanuric acid obtained from:—(a) urea, (b) tricyanogen bromide, (c) potassium isocyanate? What is the action of phosphorous pentachloride on it?
9. Give a graphic formula for naphthalene (*sic*). Compare and contrast its chemical character with that of benzene.

PHYSICS.

(Five questions only to be attempted.)

1. Give account and sketch of Bunsen's calorimeter, or Rhumkorf's coil, or Nicol's prism.
2. How determine experimentally:—(a) The focal length of a double convex lens? (b) The speed of sound in hydrogen gas? (c) The compressibility of a liquid?
3. How test a chemical balance as to:—(a) Variation of sensibility with load? (b) Inequality in the length of the arms?
4. What are:—(a) Specific resistance? (b) Capacity of a condenser? (c) Joule's equivalent? (d) Double refraction?
5. Give an account, with sketch, and explain use of a polariscope.
6. What weight of steam at 100° C. would be required to melt 40 lbs. of ice at 10° C.; the specific heat of ice being 0.5, the latent heat of steam 537, and the latent heat of water 79?
7. State and discuss briefly:—(a) The law of Dulong and Petit. (b) Avogadro's hypothesis. (c) Ohm's law.

Council Candidates.

WE now complete our notes on the new candidates for the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. We have given portraits of the others previously.

THE LEEDS CANDIDATE.

Mr. F. Pilkington Sargeant's portrait reached us last



MR. F. PILKINGTON SARGEANT.

week too late for reproduction in that issue. We now give it. Mr. Sargeant's nominators (the Leeds Chemists' Association) are not passive people, and have organised a plan of campaign which promises to give him the opportunity of getting into touch with electors in the different districts of the West Riding of Yorkshire. He thus starts in practice the first principle of the scheme of territorial representation which the next generation may be called upon to legalise.

MR. HIGGS'S CANDIDATURE.

Mr. Alfred Higgs, J.P., chemist and druggist, Kingston-on-Thames, who has accepted nomination, may be considered a London candidate. Mr. Higgs is a man of great energy and much experience of public work, with leisure that comes from success in business. He was born at Reading forty-eight years ago, and was educated at Christ's Hospital, Newgate Street. His likings for pharmacy commenced in this way. At the end of the 'sixties the Bluecoat School authorities had a chemistry department in an offshoot to the now demolished buildings, and in the laboratory that overlooked Giltspur Street Mr. Higgs became enthusiastic about chemistry. His father approved, and gave him a half-sovereign, of which only 2d. went to the tuckshop, the other 9s. 10d. being secured by a well-known Bishopsgate Street firm for



MR. ALFRED HIGGS, J.P.

chemical apparatus. This did not stop the boy's ambition, and his father thought the best way to satiate it was to apprentice him to a chemist. Accordingly, in 1872, as a yellow-stockinged Bluecoat boy, young Higgs went one day from Newgate Street to Bloomsbury Square and passed the Preliminary examination. We daresay the Bluecoat boys who have done this under similar conditions can be counted on the fingers of one hand. Young Higgs was apprenticed to Mr. Timothy, of Reading, and also obtained experience in London, Brighton, and Croydon, before he went to Luff and Woodlands' school in 1878 to study for the Minor, which he passed a fortnight before Christmas of that year. This over, he convinced Messrs. Hodgkinson, Prestons & King that he was the very man to take up a suburban journey of

theirs which was then vacant, and he held this position for a year, gaining considerable experience of business methods and learning how money could be made. Next he bought a business in Kingston-on-Thames which had long been carried on by a surgeon-apothecary, and within ten years he had so grown in the esteem of the Kingston people that he was elected a member of the Town Council. This was in 1888. In 1896 he was made a Justice of the Peace, and two years subsequently was specially appointed by the Lord Chancellor as a Justice to adjudicate in lunacy cases—a tribute to his knowledge of human nature. Mr. Higgs was appointed President of the Thames Valley Chemists' Association when it was founded, a year ago, and his conduct in the chair has been characterised by a broad outlook on pharmaceutical affairs, a judicious ruling as to topics suitable for public discussion, and an intimate knowledge of the laws regulating pharmacy in this country. His qualifications in these respects so impressed his more immediate colleagues that they are supporting him for the Council, especially with the view to filling the vacancy created by the retirement of Mr. C. B. Allen.

Mr. Higgs has not yet issued an address, but the following are the matters in which he thinks he may be of service to his *confrères* if they send him to the Council-chamber at Bloomsbury:

Mr. Higgs stands as one of the middle-class retail chemists, who at the present time are not adequately represented on the Council. One of the fundamental objects in the formation of the Pharmaceutical Society, and recited in the Royal Charter of Incorporation, was "the protection of those who carry on the business of chemists and druggists." Mr. Higgs considers that there is room for improvement in this respect, and particularly now, as much controversy will arise in the working of the Medicine-stamp Acts.

As regards the Pharmacy Bill now before Parliament, great tact must be exhibited to prevent Clause 7 from being so curtailed as to become almost useless.

In the matter of the division of the Minor examination, Mr. Higgs says the time has doubtless arrived when this should be arranged with advantage both to candidates and to the Pharmaceutical Society.

Respecting the Poisons Committee's report, he is of opinion that the adoption of anything approaching the majority report would be a retrograde step, and should be strenuously opposed.

THE BRIGHTON CANDIDATE.

The Queen of the South, as the dominating town in a district rich in pharmacy, has not been represented on the Pharmaceutical Council for some years. The late Mr. W. D. Savage (one of the founders of the Society) served the Society well as a councillor and was Vice-President from 1876 to 1879. Another Brighton pharmacist (the late Mr. Marshall Leigh) was on the Council for a few years, and now a request, not altogether local, has brought Mr. W. Humphrey Gibson, F.C.S., chemist and druggist, into the field. Mr. Gibson's pharmacy at 122 King's Road is one of the landmarks of Brighton, and amongst his pharmaceutical *confrères* he is highly esteemed. He has forty years' experience of pharmacy, and was an assistant when the 1868 Act was passed. He has been a loyal supporter of the Pharmaceutical Society and of the British Pharmaceutical Conference, and was elected a Fellow of the Chemical Society in 1888. He is President of the Brighton Pharmaceutical Association. Mr. Gibson has served the office of guardian of the poor, overseer, and people's churchwarden



MR. W. H. GIBSON, F.C.S.

of the parish of Brighton. He is a Past Provincial Grand Warden of Sussex Freemasons, a Life Governor of all the Masonic Institutions, and at one time was the Master of two Lodges, by special dispensation of H.R.H. the Grand Master of England, an honour that falls to the lot of few. He has for many years been the Chairman of the well-known and successful Brighton West Pier Company, and the trim-built lifeboat the *W. H. Gibson* hanging in the davits, always ready to render useful service in case of need, will perpetuate his name for generations to come.

In reply to our request for his pharmaceutical views Mr. Gibson writes as follows:

122 King's Road, Brighton,
April 9, 1904.

To the Editor of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

Dear Sir,—At the unanimous request of the members of the Brighton Association of Pharmacy, I have decided to offer myself as a candidate for the Council.

I am at present, and have been for the last thirty-two years, engaged in the business of a retail and dispensing chemist, and therefore can claim to be fully alive to the legislative requirements of chemists and druggists.

I shall, if elected, most strenuously urge that the Pharmacy Bill now before Parliament should become law.

I am of opinion that all registered chemists in business should be urgently invited to contribute towards the expenses of the Society in protecting their own rights.

As I reside within easy distance of London, I could promise to put in most attendances at Council and committee meetings.

I have had considerable experience of committees, and if the members do me the honour to elect me, I shall feel it my duty to further their interests to the utmost of my power.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

W. H. GIBSON.

A LONDON CANDIDATE.

Hitherto heredity has not been so pronounced a factor in our pharmaceutical government as in pharmaceutical

research. Historic houses have been apt to secure more or less continuous representation on the Council, and two generations of Squires, Inces, Savorys, and Hills have occupied the seats of the mighty. We have another claimant for the distinction in Mr. Robert Brown Betty, whose father was a member of the Council a quarter of a century ago. Mr. Betty is a "Square" man, and a prizeman at that. He passed the Minor in 1875, when the minimum age restriction had not come into force. In 1877 he went to the Square school

to study for the Major, which he duly passed in October. Mr. Betty is in business in Camden Town, close to Regent's Park, and since London realised that it was doing nothing in the Association line Mr. Betty has taken an active part as an Association propagandist. He is now Secretary of the London Chemists' Association.



MR. BETTY.

"KEPLER" CUM HÆMOGLOBIN.—A sample of "Kepler" malt-extract with hæmoglobin before us shows that Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co. have succeeded in producing an excellent emulsive combination possessing a bland, pleasant, slightly "treacley" taste. This makes it "easy taking" for children or fastidious invalids; and the well-known blood-forming properties of the iron blood-constituent, combined with a carefully prepared malt-extract, make an efficient nutrient. In anæmia, chlorosis, wasting, or as an after-sickness rejuvenator this preparation is particularly indicated.

Trade Notes.

"ENSIGN" FILM COMPETITION.—Houghtons (Limited), 88 and 89 High Holborn, W.C., ask us to call attention to the fact that the "Ensign" film competition closes on May 30, and that entry-forms and particulars can be had on application.

OINTMENT-TINS.—Messrs. Shirley Bros. (Limited), Whitecross Works, S.E., have introduced a new series of ointment-tins rounded at the bottom, so that the finger can remove the last traces of the contents. They are called "XLCR" tins, and are remarkably cheap.

MR. FRANK BUTCHER, of Messrs. W. Butcher & Sons, Farringdon Avenue, E.C., is leaving next week for a business trip to Australasia, visiting Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand, and Ceylon. He will take with him a large selection of photographic apparatus, and will open stock-rooms in the principal towns throughout the Colonies. His permanent postal address will be Mr. F. E. Butcher, c/o Mr. G. T. Glyn-Jones, 63 Queensland Offices, Sydney, N.S.W.

PHOTOGRAPHIC CATALOGUE.—Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb (Limited), 56 Hanover Street, Liverpool, send us a copy of their new photographic catalogue. The list is intended for circulation amongst amateur photographers, and Messrs. Evans inform us that they are offering to send a copy to any person who applies and states where he obtains his photographic supplies. This is good for chemists, as it helps them to retain amateurs as customers. The list runs to about 300 pages.

THE 1904 "Sparklet" Syphon is a thing of beauty, and is surely the acme of simplicity for home manufacture of aerated water. The principle of construction is the same as before, but the design of the syphon is now practically the same as that of ordinary syphons. It has a handsome appearance, and is sold outright to the public at 2s., yielding the chemist a good profit, besides what he gets on the "Sparklets," now put up at three for 4d. or 1s. 4d. per dozen box. All particulars can be obtained from Aërotors (Limited), Angel Road, Edmonton, N.

NON-DUTIABLE GOODS.—Messrs. Evans, Gadd & Co. (Limited), of Exeter and Bristol, have issued to their customers a circular stating that, in order to meet the new requirements of the Board of Inland Revenue, they have revised the labels of their packed goods, and all their articles can be sold by chemists without stamps. They offer to quote for the manufacture and preparing for sale of proprietaries, either from private formulæ or from those published in the standard books of reference, and to advise as to the best means of complying with the new regulations.

THE NEW BOVRIL PICTURE, entitled "The Leopard's Skin," is a departure from those which the company have previously presented to collectors of bovril coupons. It is a gravure reproduction, on paper 40 inches by 30 inches, of Mr. Snowman's last Royal Academy picture, and shows a group of children with a leopard's skin in the foreground. Hundreds of people throughout the country are buying bovril and using it a little more lavishly than before in order to get 21s. worth of coupons, which means twenty-one 1s. bottles. Many chemists have doubtless felt the benefit of the scheme.

SUMMER SIDE-LINES.—A new sulphur-and-sarsaparilla salt with a non-liable label has been issued by Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb (Limited), of Liverpool. The salt is put up in decorated tins, and makes a pleasantly aromatic effervescent medicine with a strong sarsaparilla flavour. From the same laboratory we have submitted to us a "laxative salt of lithia." This is packed in blue saline-bottles with an attractive label having space for chemist's own name at the bottom. The preparation is granular in form and readily effervescent. It ought to be a good seller where a convenient and agreeable mode of exhibiting lithia is indicated.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

COUNCIL-MEETING.

THE Council met at 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, on Wednesday, April 6, at three o'clock. The President (Mr. Johnston Montgomery, Belfast) took the chair, and the other members who attended were the Vice-President (Mr. W. F. Wells), Messrs. Vincent Johnston, G. D. Beggs, H. V. Goldon, J. A. Walsh, L.R.C.P. & S., W. Doig, W. J. Baxter, D. M. Watson, George Brown, Patrick Kelly, and Thomas Batt.

INTERVIEWING PARLIAMENTARY CANDIDATES.

The VICE-PRESIDENT said that at the last meeting they discussed, in an informal way, the propriety of approaching the three candidates then in the field for the representation of the Stephen's Green Division of Dublin; and following the precedent set by the late Mr. Downes some years ago, Mr. Ferrall wrote to each of the three gentlemen asking if he would receive a deputation from the Society. He at once got a most friendly letter from Mr. McCarthy, stating that he had great sympathy with the Society and would be very pleased to see a deputation and do anything he could to further their interests. He appointed a day to receive the deputation; but as he afterwards withdrew from the contest they did not wait on him, but a letter was written thanking him for his courteous reply. They also received letters from the two other candidates, Mr. Matheson and Mr. Waldron. He (the Vice-President) and Dr. Walsh waited on Mr. Waldron, who received them very courteously, listened to what they had to say, said that he did not know anything about the Pharmaceutical Acts, and, without making any definite promise, said that if elected he would see them again and talk matters over with them. Mr. Matheson, in reply to the letter addressed to him, called there to make an appointment, and Dr. Walsh, Mr. Brown, and himself (Mr. Wells) met him. He told them that he was very familiar with their Acts of Parliament, and had advised on them; and he said that he was in full sympathy with the Society and that if elected he would do anything he could to further its interests. He was not returned; but he (Mr. Wells) hoped very shortly to see the successful candidate, Mr. Waldron, and from the way he had received them he was sure that he would give full consideration to their views. He said he had only heard their sides of the question, and did not like to make any definite promise, which of course they did not ask for.

Dr. WALSH: He said that as far as he had heard we had his sympathies.

Mr. BEGGS: We did not communicate with the electors at all. On a previous occasion only one of the two candidates promised us his support, and then we did communicate with the electors, and the pharmaceutical chemists to a man voted for Mr. Campbell.

The PRESIDENT said the Council were very much obliged to the members of the deputation for their action in the matter.

A VOTE OF CONDOLENCE.

The PRESIDENT said the members had doubtless seen the announcement of the death of the son of Mr. Payne, of Belfast. Mr. Payne was an old member of the Council, and during the time he was connected with it took a great interest in the affairs of the Society, of which he had been a Vice-President. He was the only representative that the Council had in the North for many years, and through his influence and energy a great many members had been obtained in that part of the country. He (the President) therefore moved—

That the Council place on record their deeply felt sympathy with Mr. and Mrs. Payne in the loss they have sustained by the death of their only son.

The VICE-PRESIDENT, in seconding the motion, said they all deeply sympathised with Mr. Payne. When a member of the Council he was a most regular attendant at its meetings, and no one could have taken a greater interest in

pharmaceutical matters than he did; and at that time he did for them in the North the work that was now so ably done there by the President.

Dr. WALSH said he desired to be permitted to add his expression of sympathy, especially as it had been his pleasure to come into contact with young Mr. Payne. When that gentleman was living in Dublin he was a prominent member of the Pharmaceutical Students' Association, which existed at that time, and as Hon. President of that Association he (Dr. Walsh) came into contact with him. He was a most estimable and gentlemanly young man, and had the confidence and regard of all his fellow-students.

A LONDON APOTHECARY'S APPRENTICE.

A letter was read from Mr. William Daly Moore, of 13 Annadale Avenue, Fairview, Dublin, asking the Council to reconsider an application which he made in February, 1891, to be admitted to the examination for registered druggists without four years' apprenticeship in Ireland. The applicant stated that he had served his time to his father, who was an apothecary of the City of London. He was now fifty-four years of age and in infirm health, and any additional study would be arduous, if not impossible.

The PRESIDENT said he did not think they could grant this application. They sympathised with Mr. Moore, but they were bound by their Act of Parliament, which did not recognise service with a London apothecary. Under the Amendment Act Mr. Moore might have served four years with a registered druggist or pharmaceutical chemist of Ireland, or with some person who would be entitled to be registered under the Apothecaries Act of Ireland. His case was no doubt an exceptional one, but they could not take a step that would be contrary to their Act of Parliament.

Mr. KELLY said he did not believe that the construction which was being put on their Act as being exclusive of London apothecaries would be upheld in the courts.

Several other members expressed the opinion that the Council could not accept the service.

The VICE-PRESIDENT said Mr. Moore was an old school-fellow of his. He called on him, and he (the Vice-President) explained to him his position. The word "apothecary" in the Society's Act referred only to a person who was an apothecary under the Act of 1791 passed by the Irish Parliament, and therefore had no reference to an English apothecary. The Apothecaries Act of England was of a later date. It might be information to Mr. Kelly to know that nearly sixty years ago an English apothecary came to Dublin and opened a shop in Church Lane. The Apothecaries' Hall communicated with him, and he put up his shutters and went back to England; and he was sure that he did not do so without being satisfied that he had no rights in Ireland. In the regulations relating to admission to the pharmaceutical licence it is said that a "pharmaceutical chemist" might be of either Great Britain or Ireland; but it is not said that an "apothecary" may be an English apothecary. He had consulted both a barrister and a solicitor on this point, and both were strongly of opinion that they could not accept this gentleman.

Mr. KELLY said the Council had refused cases before that they ought to have accepted.

The VICE-PRESIDENT challenged the accuracy of that statement. If the Council accepted this gentleman on the terms he asked, it would be competent to any pharmaceutical chemist who felt aggrieved to go to the King's Bench about it.

The PRESIDENT: We all sympathise with Mr. Moore, but we have no legal power to admit him to the examination.

Mr. BAXTER: I move that we express our sympathy with Mr. Moore, but that it is beyond our power to grant his application.

Mr. BEGGS: I second that.

Passed unanimously.

DONATIONS

were received and acknowledged of copies of "P. J. Formulary" and "Pharmaceutical Formulas," Vol. II.

Mr. A. E. Walsh, of Market Square, Lisburn, was admitted a member.

The Council then adjourned.

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.

THE following have passed: J. J. Daily, J. Menton, A. R. French, B. G. Fenton, W. G. G. Tinkler, J. M. Crofts, F. X. Donaghy, (C. E. Doig and J. M. O'Sullivan), S. L. Strong, (J. Law and R. Edgar), F. L. Curry, J. E. Cooke, A. F. Fleming, A. Harmel. Twelve candidates were rejected.

Birth.

TOPLIS.—On April 10, the wife of James Harry Toplis, chemist, Chesterfield, of a daughter.

Marriages.

LING—ROWLAND.—On April 6, at St. Edmund's Church, Salisbury, Ralph M. Ling, chemist and druggist, of Cromer, Norfolk, to Blanche Gertrude, eldest daughter of the late Mr. William Rowland, of Salisbury.

NIMMO—DALE.—At St. Mark's Church, Sunderland, on April 6, by the Rev. A. R. Stogdon, Vicar of Norham-on-Tweed, William Nimmo, chemist and druggist, Pallion, to Lillian, third daughter of the late Mr. W. R. and Mrs. Dale.

PARSON—BERRY.—On April 12, at Hobson Street Chapel, Cambridge, by the Rev. W. Bradfield and the Rev. F. H. Benson, Sydney James Parson, chemist, eldest son of the late Mr. Henry James Parson, pharmaceutical chemist, Peas Hill, to Bertha, third daughter of Mr. Aaron Berry, Hartingdon Grove.

ROBERTS—MARSH.—At St. Paul's, Weymouth, on April 12, by the Rev. Sydney Lambert, M.A., Vicar, Arthur Harry Roberts, the Westham Pharmacy, Weymouth (son of Mr. Thomas Roberts, of Barrow-in-Furness), to Harriet Lucy (Lutie), fourth surviving daughter of the late Mr. Jasper Marsh, of Fleet, Dorset.

SAYERS—FORSYDGE.—On April 7, at St. Mary Abbott's, Kensington, by the Rev. H. Van Cooten, Stephen Percy Sayers, chemist, son of Mr. Albert Sayers, of Ardingly, to Ethel, daughter of Mr. John Forsdyke, of Kensington.

TREW—WAITE.—At St. Mary Redcliffe, Bristol, on April 6, by the Right Rev. W. J. F. Robberds, D.D., Lord Bishop of Brechin, Henry Edward Trew, chemist and druggist, Bristol General Hospital, to Priscilla Waite, formerly "Sister Colston" at that institution.

Deaths.

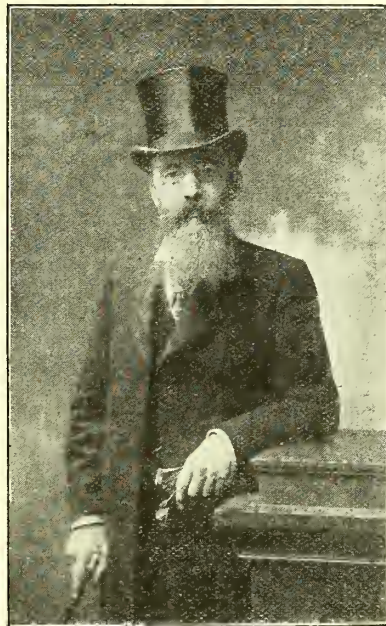
BAXTER.—At Sidmouth, on April 9, Mr. George John Baxter, late of Rosslyn, New Eltham. The late Mr. Baxter was managing-clerk to the firm of Messrs. A. & G. Fischer, drug-merchants, Fen Court, E.C., and had been with them for over thirty-five years. For several years Mr. Baxter had suffered from a rheumatic affection, but his death was unexpected. Mr. Baxter was well known in Mincing Lane, and was highly respected. He leaves a widow.

HORSFIELD.—At her residence, Swanland House, Bridlington, on April 6, Ellen, wife of the late Mr. J. N. Horsfield, Chemist, Sweet Street, Leeds.

KEITH.—At Newbiggin, Northumberland, on April 9, Mr. John Keith, chemist and druggist, aged fifty years. Mr. Keith retired to bed on Friday night in his usual health (which had not been good lately), and was found

dead by Mrs. Keith on Saturday morning. Mr. Keith was a native of Montrose, and served his apprenticeship with the late Mr. George Burrell there. Afterwards he held several situations in England, and settled for several years in Dundee as manager of one of Mr. Charles Kerr's branch shops. He passed the Minor examination in 1881, and soon after bought a business in Newton Stewart, which he sold to acquire a larger one in Blyth. He also bought Mr. J. W. Sutherland's Dumfries business, but latterly had been residing in Newbiggin, a heart-affection from which he suffered compelling a quiet life. Mr. Keith was a man of wide reading, and had more than the average share of those conversational powers which characterise the cultured Scot. He is survived by his third wife (a Blyth lady) and one child.

MILLER.—By the death of Mr. Andrew Paton Miller, of Hobart, Tasmania (which we announced last week), pharmacy in that Colony has lost one of her pioneers. Mr. Miller was born in Paisley about sixty years ago, and was duly apprenticed to the drug-trade. After qualifying, he went out to Melbourne some thirty-five years since, and after a few years' experience with the firm of Messrs. Francis & Co., commenced business on his own account at the corner of Elizabeth Street and Murray Street, Hobart, which premises have since been rebuilt and are now a handsome block of buildings known as Miller's Chambers. At the time Mr. Miller commenced business there were not half-a-dozen chemists on the island. Mr. Miller appears to have been successful from the outset, and in the course of a few years he built up a splendid business. He also started a eucalyptus-oil distillery on the Derwent River, New Norfolk, the product being sold under the "Windmill" brand, which enjoyed a good reputation in Australasia. Mr. Miller



was a Past-President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Tasmania, and took a keen interest in its affairs. In 1900 he paid his last visit to the Old Country, on which occasion he was one of the guests at the annual dinner of the Pharmaceutical Society. Among his host of friends he was known as an exceptionally kind-hearted man, and was held in the highest respect throughout the Colony. By his good fortune he was enabled to assist those of his friends whom he had known in his younger days at a time when the Van Diemen's Land Bank failed. He leaves a widow, two sons, and four daughters. His eldest son, Mr. A. J. F. Miller, who is now the head of the firm (A. P. Miller & Son), is a member of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society. The younger son, Dr. Lindsay Miller, is at present in London.

PAYNE.—At Davos Platz, on March 24, Mr. W. B. Payne, only son of Mr. J. C. C. Payne, pharmaceutical chemist, Belfast. Mr. Payne's health had caused anxiety for some time, and after being with Messrs. Finck & Co., of Geneva, for eighteen months, he sought a position in Davos, where, the altitude being too high in his case, hemorrhages occurred and proved fatal after an illness of three months. Mr. Payne leaves a widow and young son.

PEARSON.—At Leyburn, on March 30, Mr. John Pearson, chemist and druggist, aged ninety.

ROSENBERG.—On March 9, at Lockhart, Devikulam, India, Baron Otto von Rosenberg, the well-known cinchona-planter. The late Baron some ten years ago was an occasional contributor to *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* on cinchona-cultivation in Ceylon, and at the time his articles attracted considerable attention in the drug-trade. In 1893 and 1894, when the exports of cinchona from Ceylon were dwindling and planters were uprooting their bark, he was confident that in time to come the bark would again become a leading export article from the island. Subsequent events, however, have shown that the Baron's conclusions have not been realised. In addition to cinchona properties on the Kanan Devan Hills in Travancore, where he had resided for many years, the Baron was the owner of several tea and coffee properties. He was enthusiastic in promoting planters' interests in many directions, and he represented his Association on several occasions at the annual meetings at Bangalore of the United Planters' Association of Southern India.

THOMSON.—On April 2, at Oxford, of pneumonia, Frances Marie Royle Thomson, youngest daughter of the late Dr. Antony Todd Thomson, F.R.C.P.

Bankruptcies and Failures.

Re JOHN THOMAS BEYNON (trading as Bynon & Co.), Church Street, Monmouth, Chemist and Druggist.—The Official Receiver of the Newport-upon-Usk Bankruptcy Court reports that the realisation of this debtor's estate has been completed. As a result the creditors will receive a first and final dividend of 3s. 11½d. in the pound.

Re WALTER LEONARD GIBSON, 43 Baxter Gate, Loughborough, Leicestershire, Drug-dealer.—The public examination of this debtor took place on April 12 at Leicester, before Mr. Registrar Deane. Debtor commenced business about seven years ago, shortly before his father, who was a chemist and druggist, went bankrupt. He was without capital, and his father gave him a few fixtures and a very small stock of drugs. The liabilities are stated at 97%, and the assets 15%. Debtor was allowed to pass.

Gazette.

Partnerships Dissolved.

Beckley, A., and Howe, A. F. A., under the style of Beckley & Howe, Brighton and Lewes, dental surgeons.

Thompson, C. G., M.B., and Adamson, C. H., M.B., under the style of Drs. Gurney Thompson and Adamson, Tottenham and Edmonton, general medical practitioners.

Blair, C. S., and Macguire, G. G., under the style of Drs. Blair and Macguire, Fulwood, Kew Gardens, Richmond, S.W., and Glengariff, Kew Road, Richmond, S.W., general medical practitioners.

Crane, A. J., and Seville, J. W., under the style of Crane and Seville, Folkestone, surgeon-dentists.

THE STATE OF MYSORE is granting fifty-acre plots for experimental rubber-planting, with free assessment for the first five years.

The silver-leaf treatment of wounds, as referred to in the Paris papers, appears to be very interesting and easy of experimental trial. It sticks to the wound, and is kept in its place by means of cotton soaked in collodion.

Legal Reports.

Trade Law.

One Analysis, one Summons.—At West London Police Court on April 11, the Farmer's Dairy Company, of Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire, was summoned at the instance of the Fulham Borough Council for giving a false milk warranty to the Callow Park Dairy Company, of Copenhagen Street, W. It was alleged that in December last the defendant company, while under a contract to supply pure milk to the Callow Park Dairy, consigned a churn of milk which on analysis was found to contain 0.045 per cent. of boric acid. The analyst's certificate which was used at the hearing of a summons against the Callow Park Dairy Company was produced, and the company's analyst was called, who stated that he "found a borate in the milk," but could not say in what quantity. Mr. Ricketts, for the defence, contended that the summons must fail because a certificate that had once been used in a case which was dismissed could not be accepted *per se* as evidence; nor had the prosecution called an independent public analyst to prove the quality of the milk. He cited the case of "Tyler v. Kingham" in support of his argument. Mr. Rose (the Magistrate) upheld the contention, observing that one analysis could not be used in two separate prosecutions. He dismissed the summons.

High Court Cases.

WHAT ARE NET PROFITS?

LORDS JUSTICES VAUGHAN WILLIAMS, STIRLING, and COZENS HARDY on Wednesday, April 13, heard an application by the plaintiff in the action of *Scobell v. Gadu* for judgment or new trial, on the ground of misdirection of the jury by Mr. Justice Kennedy. Mr. Shearman, K.C., and Mr. Eustace Hills appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Banks, K.C., and Mr. Norman Craig represented the defendant.

Mr. Shearman said the question was whether the jury were entitled to do as they did by the direction of the learned Judge—viz., find that the words "net profits" were ambiguous, and put their own interpretation upon them. He put it that they could have only one meaning, whether applied to a chemist's or any other business. The plaintiff, who was a surveyor, purchased from the defendant a chemist's business at 59 Queen Street, Ramsgate, for his son. The agreement was dated May 22, 1902, and contained the warranty on which the action was brought. No fraud was alleged, but the business was guaranteed to have made a certain profit, which in fact plaintiff said it had not made. The warranty was that the business had "during the three years ending August 31, 1901, made an annual average net profit, after deducting all losses and outgoings, including two-thirds of the rent, rates, and taxes, 65% for wages and keep of assistants, 13% for a boy, and 10% for repairs, of 340%." The Judge had left these words to the jury to interpret. Plaintiff's contention was that to arrive at the net profits of any business during any year it was necessary to ascertain what had been sold in that year and what was the cost of what was sold. The defendant's case was that net profits could be shown by deducting expenditure from receipts, but the receipts might have been increased by selling off stock which had been bought in previous years. The jury did not take the plaintiff's view, and thought he had no grievance, although he had pointed out that a man might have 300% worth of stock, sell it off, and produce 600% without buying anything in that year, and call it his net takings. No evidence, he contended, was admissible to prove that in a chemist's business it was possible to take the net profits without having regard to the stock in hand at the beginning of the year, and in this case no stock-books were kept. Plaintiff's evidence came to this—that without disrupting the turnover, which was something under 900% a year, it was quite impossible to have made a profit of 340% a year, practically 100 per cent. on everything sold, whereas a good deal of the business was the making up of doctors' prescriptions, on which there was a very small profit. The construction of the warranty was a matter for the Court, and not for the jury.

Lord Justice Vaughan Williams: I am a little puzzled. Supposing no valuation is made, at the beginning of a year, of the stock in hand, and in the following year you propose to sell the business. The purchaser wants to know what are the profits for the year, but there is no method of arriving at them.

Mr. Shearman: I agree.

His Lordship: What is to be done?

Mr. Shearman said the man who was selling the business should not enter into a written guarantee that there were certain net profits. He could not prove it. But it was not plaintiff's fault. He bought, and he insisted on this warranty in the most specific terms that this profit had been made. It was no answer to him to say it was impossible to state what were the net profits.

Mr. Hills, following on the same side, said that what the defendant was contending for was a special trade meaning of net profits. Even supposing—though he did not admit it—that it was established that there was a trade meaning, the defendant had not proved enough to entitle the question to be properly left to the jury, because there was no attempt to go the further step which was necessary, and to prove that it had a special trade meaning within the knowledge of Mr. Scobell. How could he be bound by a meaning among chemists of what "net profits" meant when it was never brought home to him that he had any knowledge of that meaning?

Mr. Banks, for the defendant, contended that there was no ground for disturbing the verdict of the jury. The defendant had carried on the business for over twenty years, and being desirous of selling it he placed it in the hands of Messrs. Orridge, a well-known firm of agents for disposing of this kind of business. The plaintiff saw the advertisement of it, which only had reference to returns, and communicated with the agents, and subsequently with Mr. Gadd, who as early as April sent particulars of the business. The advertisement said there was a good class of trade, light retail, and plenty of dispensing. Assuming that there was evidence to show that the words "net profits" had a particular meaning in the trade, and that he could show that the parties up to a certain point dealt with the matter on the footing of that meaning—

Lord Justice Vaughan Williams: It is quite unnecessary for you to prove anything of the sort. In proving that there was a purchase and sale in a market where the custom applied, it does not matter whether the people conducted their business on that basis or not.

Mr. Banks: But supposing, as part of the evidence of custom, I prove that these people dealt according to the custom in terms—

His Lordship: It does not prove custom.

Mr. Banks: But it is evidence to show the existence of the custom.

His Lordship: I do not think it is.

Mr. Banks: But supposing they said to each other, "We will deal according to the custom of the Stock Exchange," for instance?

His Lordship: Then if that was the ultimate agreement, you prove a bargain to that effect.

Mr. Banks submitted that if the words of the ultimate bargain did not exclude such a custom, the fact that the parties had in terms bargained upon the footing of the existence of the custom was evidence to corroborate anyone who said there was such a custom.

His Lordship: The bargain excludes it here. I do not think the earlier correspondence is relevant.

Mr. Banks said there was a reference to "average profits 300*l.* per annum."

His Lordship: Is there any special meaning to "profits" there?

Mr. Banks: I do not think you can say there is, taking it there by itself.

His Lordship: Nor do I. Again, "the shop is well stocked." Is that material?

Mr. Banks thought it was, because it was bought separately. The correspondence showed that the plaintiff knew that the profits represented the difference between takings and outgoings.

The hearing was resumed on Thursday, and in the result the appeal was allowed. Lord Justice Vaughan

Williams said he could not think that in any view of the case a verdict and judgment for the defendant were the right result. The other Judges concurring, the verdict and judgment were accordingly set aside.

Dentists Act.

COMPANY DENTISTS.

We understand that Mr. John Panhans, managing director of the West Central Dental Institute (Limited), 2 Tavistock Gardens, Museum Street, W.C., has entered into recognisances to prosecute an appeal in the High Court of Justice against the decision of Mr. Fenwick, at Bow Street on January 8, convicting him of infringing Section 3 of this Act by the use of the title of his company.

THREE CASES IN LIVERPOOL.

At Liverpool Police Court, on Wednesday, April 13, before Mr. Kinghorn, the Deputy Stipendiary, E. Harrison, Bold Street, was summoned for having used the description "dentist" whilst not registered. Mr. Turner, barrister, prosecuted on behalf of the British Dental Association. Mr. Rigby Swift defended, and stated that his client was for many years manager for Mr. Parkinson, who was a qualified dentist, and on the death of Mr. Parkinson defendant continued the business, which he had purchased. It was pointed out to him that he could not use the word "dentist," and he undertook not to use the word again. The Deputy Stipendiary consented to the withdrawal of the case on payment of 5*l.* 5*s.* costs.

Theo. A. Biodetti, Catherine Street, was next summoned. Mr. Turner said the two summonses against this defendant were for using the words "dental surgeon" and for the use of the words "late assistant to the dental surgeon of the Queen and Court of Holland." The words "late assistant" were in such small letters on the plate that only the words "dental surgeon" caught the eye. Defendant said he had served his time as a dentist, but was not fully qualified. He had had twenty years' experience. He contended that over 50 per cent. of the dental assistants in Liverpool are not qualified. Mr. Kinghorn said that other words so as to imply that he was specially qualified to practise dentistry. He had therefore committed an offence against the Act. The first case was withdrawn and on the second a fine of 5*l.* and 5*l.* 5*s.* costs was imposed.

H. W. Griffin, Bold Street, was summoned for using the word "dentist" contrary to the Act, and for the unlawful use of the words "Dentist entrance. Painless gas extractions. Lancashire Dental Institute (Limited): Mr. Griffin, manager. Crown, bar, bridge work; gold fillings." Dr. Commins, for the defence, contended that there was no contravention of the Act. The word "dental" was not connected with the name of Griffin. The company might have a manager who was not a qualified dentist. Mr. Kinghorn held the case proved, and imposed a fine of 5*l.* and 5*l.* 5*s.* costs in the first case and 20*s.* and 5*s.* 6*d.* costs in the second.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

SWEET SPIRIT OF NITRE.

At Sheffield on April 7, Betsy Foster, grocer, 173 Carlisle Street, was fined 10*s.* for having sold sweet spirit of nitre deficient in ethyl nitrite. The defence was that the article was bought some months ago, and had lost its strength by evaporation.

CREAM OF TARTAR.

At the Guildhall Police Court on April 7. Boots' Cash Chemists (Southern) (Limited) were summoned for selling cream of tartar containing 0.025 per cent. of lead in combination, equal to 1.75 gr. of lead to the pound. Mr. T. G. Vickery, who prosecuted on behalf of the Corporation, said the prosecution had received notice of an intention to rely upon a warranty. So far as that matter was concerned, the Act of Parliament had been complied with, and his friend withdrew that as being any defence,

but asked that the third sample, retained in the ordinary course by the inspector, should be sent by the Court to the Commissioners of Inland Revenue for analysis. Possibly if the Government analyst arrived at the same result as Dr. Teed, the public analyst for the City, the defendants would take a "certain course."

Mr. Leese (for the defence): And if the Government analyst comes to the same decision as our analyst, perhaps the City will take another course. (Laughter.)

Inspector May produced to the Court the sample of cream of tartar purchased at the defendant company's premises at 150 Bishopsgate Street, and

Mr. Alderman Vaughan Morgan adjourned the summons for three weeks.

At Mansion House Police Court on April 8, before the Lord Mayor, the case against Mr. G. S. Boutall, chemist and druggist, for selling cream of tartar contaminated with lead, was mentioned. On the application of Mr. Kebbell (for the defence) the hearing was adjourned for a week.

CAMPHORATED OIL.

On April 13, at the Wolverhampton Police Court, before Mr. N. C. A. Neville, Stipendiary Magistrate, Richard Cook, general dealer, Heath Town, was summoned for selling camphorated oil not of the nature and substance demanded by the purchaser. Mr. Van Tromp said the oil was of the proper strength, but mineral oil had been substituted to the extent of 38 per cent. for olive oil. Mr. Cook had informed him that the oil had been purchased in July, 1903, and as more than six months had elapsed since the transaction defendant could not proceed against the wholesale firm. He (Mr. Van Tromp) did not wish to press the case, and suggested that a light penalty should be imposed. The Stipendiary, in ordering defendant to pay a fine of 5s. and costs, said if he could prove that he purchased the drug as camphorated oil and sold it in the same state as he received it, he would have a cause of action against the wholesale dealer.

MILK OF SULPHUR.

At Oldbury on April 12, William Hopkins Round, chemist and druggist, Birmingham Road, Oldbury, was summoned for selling adulterated milk of sulphur on February 24. Police-constable Pegg purchased a sample at the defendant's shop, which was found upon analysis to be adulterated to the extent of 45 per cent. Defendant was fined 2l. and costs.

Business Changes.

MR. S. E. GITTINS, chemist and druggist, has purchased the business of Mr. W. B. Douglas at High Street, Egham.

MESSRS. RUSSELL & Co., chemists, have removed from 29 High Street, Windsor, to more commodious premises at 7 High Street, Windsor.

MR. J. FRANCIS, chemist and druggist, has purchased the business of the late Mr. R. Llewellyn at 148 High Street, Merthyr Tydvil.

MESSRS. CHEERS & HOPLEY, chemists, Chester and elsewhere, have taken into partnership Mr. D. T. Williams, chemist and druggist, who has been with them for many years.

MR. D. PETERS, pharmaceutical chemist, of Williams & Peters, Fortress Road, Kentish Town, N.W., has bought the business of the late Mr. W. Thomas, 126 Upper Street, Islington, N.

MR. T. J. GALT, chemist and druggist, formerly of London, has acquired the chemist's business which had been carried on by the late Mr. W. Bailey at 125 Railway Road, King's Lynn.

MR. W. B. DOUGLAS, chemist and druggist, late of Egham, has purchased from Mr. Percy Grey the business at Victoria Parade, Torquay, formerly carried on by Messrs. Riches & Torrin.

MR. J. W. SIMPSON, chemist, St. Margaret's-on-Thames, is removing his business to larger and more commodious premises (14 Crown Road) just above his present shop. The premises have been built from the plans of Mr. T. Simpson, 4 Queen Street Place, E.C., and Messrs. Ayrton, Saunders, and Kemp are doing the shopfitting.

Association Ballads.

THE PURPOSE.

*The men, their aims, their daily irk;
Their troubles, trials, thoughts, and views
On things politic, foes that lurk
In friendly guise, but treach'rous work—
These be the burden of our Muse.*

XV. DERBY.

In a town that is famed for its silk, lace and porcelain,
Set on the Derwent so modestly proud,
There of good pharmacy snatch ye a morsel in,
'Voiding high pæans or language that's loud;
Linger by "Smith's" when the pill-puncher's task is done—
Brief his respite—and you'll presently see
Masters of Craft who by striving their ways have won
E'en unto wisdom and prosperitee.

Readman the ready with care unemotional,
Fires the war-torch and the Warrington chief,
Rules o'er proceedings discreet and devotional,
Piercing the Hart; but affording relief
To feelings hard pent; there good Hefford and Pemberton
Urge due agreement and deprecate guile,
Favour strong union from Wick unto Wimbledon,
Frowning on apathy, rancour and bile.

Blaylock and Cope, never wearied reformers they,
Launch into schemes full of ethical truth,
With one consent they as convention scorners say—
"Eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth."
Warlike their motto, and Cutters are chary-like
Passing their arguments skilfully by,
Lest they acquire a bad name—"Little Mary"-like—
Feverish symptoms and tongue that is dry.

Swift and sublime is the dire retribution sought,
Deep is the vengefulness without alloy
Meted to Foes who their full contribution brought
Forth to kill Pharmacy; seeking to Toy
Freely with poisons; their dark Machon-ations are
Clear as the noonday to Bowler and Bell,
And Calvert and Clarke with their gentle persuasions mar
Naught that Haynes, Sherwin, or Stevenson tell.

Dark the horizon, but Southern sees glorious
Dreams of the future when patents are dead,
Elmitt sees Pharmacy smiling, victorious,
Somerset House bowing humbly her head.
Stevenson sighs for a gentle destructiveness
Marking off M.P.'s who work for the Stores.
Pattison yearns for Glyn-Jones's seductiveness,
Counselling workers and snuffing out Bores.

These be the aims of our strenuous brethren
Dreeding their weird by the dale and the wild,
Smiling at Spouters with lungs that are leathern
Trying to turn liver-pills into gold.
Greenall and Osborne and Houfton and Harrison,
Turner and Harvey and Hodgson and Hoare
Call for a Monkhouse or P.A.T.A. Garrison.
"Nay," quoth the Mason; "I build me no more."

FROM ST. ALBANS.—"Please send a bottle of phosferine, not that kind that kills rats."

PREPARING FOR THE SEASON.—The price-list and Visitors' Guide issued by Mr. J. Young, chemist, Torquay, is well calculated to bring business. In fact, if anything, the "Guide" portion of the book has been perhaps too severely subordinated to the "business" part, and a few more local particulars would be an advantage from the visitors' point of view. But the booklet is attractively produced and the hand of the "live" pharmacist is seen in its production. Various terse comments, given as footnotes, will not fail to impress the lay mind.

Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

The Coming Council Election

looks a little like developing into a demonstration in favour of Clause 7. Nothing would be more satisfactory. The object of an election is the revelation of the will of the constituency. In pharmacy, at all events, which is not governed on the party system, it is not generally easy to read from the result the mind of the majority. Personal popularity, long services, local influences, all assist to obscure the so-called mandate. It would be a useful and helpful novelty if on this occasion the votes should unmistakably declare the thoughts of the electorate. I have intimated that Clause 7 would be a suitable question for a referendum. This is suggested by the circumstance that in the three addresses already published the idea of that topic is evidently prominent. But there is a much stronger reason than this. Clause 7 is in imminent danger. It is semi-officially stated that

Negotiations of a Cordial Character

are at present proceeding between the Privy Council and the Pharmaceutical Council. That announcement is ominous. If that cordiality continues, exit Clause 7. We all know it is the Jonah of the Pharmacy Bill, and I shall be very much surprised if the Privy Council are willing to transfer it to the measure which they are drafting. The attitude of the Privy Council towards us must have changed marvellously if we are to hope for anything of this kind from them. They have always shown us less sympathy than we have had even from Parliament, and so far as is known their present intentions concerning the Pharmacy Act are distinctly hostile. If they bring forward a Government Bill to amend the Pharmacy Act, as they promise, they will at least ensure for us a hearing on the floors of both Houses of Parliament, and with that opportunity in front of us this is not at all the time to talk or even to think of withdrawing a single syllable from the assertion of our just claims. If we are to be beaten we must put up with our defeat, but at least let us have a fight first. But

Compromise is in the Air.

Cordial negotiations lead to it inevitably, and compromise means, in this instance, almost certainly, the abandonment of Clause 7, the addition of a third part to the Poisons Schedule, and perhaps, in return for these concessions on our part, Whitehall will graciously encourage us a little to hope for the institution of the long-desired curriculum! Are those the results which an unusually large number of pharmacists have been so earnestly contending for of late? To use the Prime Minister's language, I trow not. East, west, north, and south, and even in and about London not less vigorously than elsewhere, a determined resolution to get this question of company pharmacy before Parliament has been manifest. Much earnest work has been done by associations and individuals, and effective influence has been exercised in scores of places. By this time a goodly number of members of Parliament have been educated to an interest in our aims, and we have the testimony of the Lord Chancellor himself to the inequity of the present condition. To sacrifice Clause 7 now for the mere sake of getting a Bill of some sort through means not only the waste of much excellent energy, but also it carries with it final acquiescence in unjust conditions. Now is the time, therefore, to brace up the Council by convincing all its candi-

dates that their position on the coming poll will depend on their firm adhesion to the principle which has been adopted.

The Election Addresses

at present before us are on the whole satisfactory from this point of view. Mr. Hagon is perhaps a shade too comprehensive. He is in favour of the Pharmacy Bill now before Parliament, and would do his utmost to insure its becoming law. It would be well to know what is the last bit of it he would be willing to part with. Mr. Sargeant gives his unqualified approval to the Bill, and considers Clause 7 of vital importance. Nothing could be better if he had stopped there, but this candidate hedges a little by intimating that he is not opposed to some compromise if the passing of the Bill could be thereby expedited. His idea of a compromise, however, is not encouraging to our adversaries, for he is resolute not to tamper with the principle of a fully qualified directorate. That is all that the clause demands. Mr. Gibson is the most definite of all. The Brighton Association, which speaks for him, assures us that he is quite in sympathy with the Bill, and is "particularly keen in desiring that Clause 7 shall be placed on the statute-book." *O si sic omnes!*

In the Tabloid Appeal Case

the appellants' counsel mentioned that one of the distinguished witnesses on the other side had had a fee of three hundred guineas for his ten minutes' evidence. The statement was objected to, but was not contradicted, and apparently the charge had been allowed by the taxing-master. It may be assumed that the 315*l.* witness was one of the medical baronets. Whether such a fee for such a service is unprecedented or not I cannot say; I have never heard of anything like it. Possible litigants should note it, and students of sociology may observe with such reflections as may occur to them that the only effect the revelation had on the Court was to evoke a little banter from the presiding Lord Justice. John Burns is credited with the dictum that no man in the world is worth more than 500*l.* a year; but it was last century when John said that, and the opinion was out of date then.

Spiders and Cobwebs

have as good a record in medical history as any remedy in our Pharmacopœias. According to Gray's "Supplement," Pliny and Theophrastus recommended cobwebs; and Burton, in the "Anatomy of Melancholy," written 300 years ago, referring to spiders in nutshells worn round the neck as amulets to keep off the ague, says he first thought the practice absurd and ridiculous, but rambling amongst authors he found this very medicine (I am not sure whether he means the spiders or their webs, and whether as amulets or as pills) mentioned by Dioscorides, approved by Mathioli, and repeated by Alderovandus. Dr. Fernie, in "Animal Simples," quotes Sir Thomas Watson as recommending cobwebs in ague; Dr. Donaldson, of Madras, who gave cobweb in pills for malarial fever in 1867, and considered it in some respects superior to quinine; and other authorities. The venom of *Tarantula cubensis*, Fernie says, has been proved (in the homœopathic sense) and found to cause great restlessness, the prover not being able to remain quiet anywhere or in any position, bringing to mind thoughts of the dancing mania supposed to be set up in Italians by the bite of this spider. It was an ingenious idea, based on this proving, to make a homœopathic tincture from the spiders and use it as a remedy for St. Vitus's dance.

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Editorial Comments.

Danger!

REDUCED to simplicity the Pharmacy Bill has four objects, and these, in the order of their importance, are:

1. To put limited companies keeping open shop as chemists on a footing with persons who do the same, and to require that such companies shall be managed by duly qualified chemists as directors.

2. To provide that the compounding of prescriptions shall be in the hands only of persons duly qualified to sell "poisons."

3. To make the administration of the law regarding the sale of poisons more effective by providing for the registration of each shop kept open for that purpose, with the qualified person in charge thereof, and to prohibit the sale of poisons elsewhere than in registered shops; also to make employers legally responsible for the acts of unqualified employes.

4. To provide for a compulsory curriculum at a university (or the like) on the part of those entering for the Minor examination, and for the division of that examination, and to facilitate reciprocity of qualifications within the Empire.

We explained last week that the Privy Council have been in communication with the Pharmaceutical Council, and suggested that chemists and druggists should take into serious consideration whether they would agree to a third part of the Poison Schedule in exchange for the company clause or a modification of it. Now we learn from an official source that "there is a danger . . . lest chemists, in attempting to educate their Parliamentary representatives, should, in their laudable anxiety to explain Clause 7, neglect to emphasise the value, from a public as well as from a professional standpoint, of the other provisions of the Pharmacy Bill." The coating is too thin to hide the obvious hint that negotiation between Bloomsbury and

Whitehall means the probable surrender of the company clause altogether. We should be surprised if the majority of the Council lent themselves to such a traitorous proceeding. It is useful to recall what members of Council have said, and we append extracts from some speeches :

THE PRESIDENT (Mr. Atkins).

As to Clause 7, which would no doubt be the subject of a special fight when the Bill came to Committee, he might say that the qualifying clause for directors they had decided must stand precisely where it was; that whatever might happen in Committee or afterwards in the discussion in the House for present purposes, they were not prepared to modify that clause one iota.—*C. & D.*, October 31, 1903, page 730.

MR. CARTEIGHE.

(At the Council Meeting in October, 1903.)

MR. YOUNG: You have said nothing about the momentous question of dropping any of the clauses.

MR. CARTEIGHE: I think I said it was to be introduced exactly as last year. Continuing, Mr. Carteighe said all the committee, with one exception, were quite clear on that point.—*C. & D.*, October 10, page 607.

(At Brighton.)

Referring lightly to Clause 7 Mr. Carteighe said it is an open question whether, unless they can get the director-qualification, it will be worth while going to Parliament at all.—*C. & D.*, March 12, 1904, page 420.

MR. R. LORD GIFFORD.

The Bill stood or fell on Clause 7. It was the principle of the Bill, and could not be compromised. . . . That principle which focussed the policy of the Council was the foundation of all professions; therefore by insisting upon it they made imperative the help and assistance of them all—they could not get away from it.—*C. & D.*, November 23, 1903, page 898.

MR. GLYN-JONES.

He saw no more reason now for withdrawing Clause 7 than he did twelve months ago, when the clause was first introduced into the Bill. It was a just demand to make, and the only opposition came from those who have vested interests, and have not been able to point to any other solution of the question.—*C. & D.*, October 10, 1903, page 607.

MR. HARRINGTON.

He could not help thinking that if Clause 7 were struck out there would be no more chance of the Bill passing than if it remained, and chemists would be better off, or at least quite as well off, without the Bill at all.—*C. & D.*, March 19, 1904, page 457.

MR. NEWSHOLME.

As regards Clause 7 the committee were unanimous in agreeing to its retention. There was, it is true, some hesitation as to that clause, but during the recess they had had an opportunity of thinking the matter over more carefully, and had concluded that it was absolutely necessary to have Clause 7 as it stood last year. The only people who controverted the clause are limited companies and members of Parliament who have interests at stake. *C. & D.*, October 10, 1903, page 607.

MR. ROBINSON.

The decision to retain Clause 7 [he thought] right. At first it looked hopeless, but there are officials in Government Departments who do not think the clause an improper one.—*C. & D.*, October 10, 1903, page 607.

DR. SYMES.

Exception had been taken to Clause 7. . . . It was not their business to say that the Council were prepared to modify that clause; in fact, the Council had passed a resolution deciding to stand by it to a certain extent, and in small companies this should certainly be the case.—*Speech at Hanley reported in this issue.*

MR. WOOTTON.

He agreed with Mr. Gifford in his contention that Clause 7 was the crucial one. . . . He should like to see that clause put forward as the minimum that pharmacists will accept.—*C. & D.*, October 10, 1903, page 607.

Shall we go forward with the Bill, omitting this contentious clause? It would be a pity to do that, for without it the rest of the Bill is of little value.—*C. & D.*, October 17, 1903, page 649.

Chemists' associations throughout the country are unanim-

ously of the same opinion; a few clever men here and there have questioned if it is possible to pass the company clause, but the common view is that there is no use legislating at all unless companies are dealt with as the first element in the situation. It may seem incredible to many that we should mention the idea of surrender, but we do so advisedly, it being better to prevent a disaster than to remedy it. Legislation in regard to company pharmacy is urgently necessary: it is practically the only legislation desired by chemists and druggists, and without it the registration of shops and a compulsory curriculum would be as mint sauce without the lamb. This is the last chance of legislating on the subject, and it only needs forcible expressions from the trade to assure the Pharmaceutical Council that Clause 7 is an indispensable part of the basis of negotiations with the Privy Council.

A Paying Business.

It is only once a year that the chemists and druggists of Great Britain have the opportunity of realising to the full what a money-making and money-spending thing the Pharmaceutical Society is. Of course, the Society *quâ* Society would be as poor as the P.A.T.A. if it had not the examination-fees to support it. For instance, the members and associates contributed 6,336*l.* in 1902, and the total expenditure was 16,306*l.*, while in 1903 they subscribed 6,345*l.*, and 17,707*l.* was spent, which means that 9*l.* more was received from the members last year, but 1,401*l.* more was spent. It is impossible to realise facts like this until the certified figures are examined. We give them on page 608, and they speak for themselves. The examination-revenue was 10,215*l.*, compared with 9,555*l.* in 1902—the direct cost being 3,292*l.*, against 3,062*l.*—so that last year's net income from this source was 6,923*l.*, or 430*l.* more than in 1902. It will be remembered that the Minor examination fee was raised seven years ago from five guineas to ten. There was no justification for it in the cost of the examinations, for the average expenditure on each candidate then, without counting office-work and rent, was 1*l.* 19*s.* (Major and Minor). There is now less justification for the ten-guinea fee, because last year's figures show that each Major and Minor candidate cost 1*l.* 15*s.* Although the Society receives a revenue of 10,000*l.* to administer the Pharmacy Acts, the Pharmacy Bill provides for more by the shops' and managers' registration scheme; and some of the members have the temerity to advocate that each person on the register should pay an annual registration-fee. They forget that the additional five-guinea Minor fee was meant to cover that. In short, the Pharmaceutical Society is very well paid for its statutory work.

An increase of 1,401*l.* in the Society's internal yearly expenditure is too much, especially as it brings the Society within 400*l.* of its income. It is accounted for by increases in four items, viz.:

	£
Increased cost of examinations	230
Increased cost of School	263
Increase in annuities	300
Increased cost of "Journal" and distribution	822
	£1,615

As the receipts from examinations were 660*l.* more (there being 140 more Minor candidates), the increased cost was natural. The total expenditure on the other three items (after crediting School and "Journal" receipts) was 5,026*l.* In the first year of the Pharmacy Act (1869) these three things cost the Society only 256*l.* Then one-sixteenth

of the Society's revenue from members' subscriptions and interest was spent on the publishing and scholastic business; now nine-thirteenths are absorbed by the two departments. This could not be done without ten-guinea Minor examination fees, which are thus used for purely commercial ventures. The Council might use the money to greater advantage.

Well Said!

We wish to punctuate the exceptionally emphatic remarks which Mr. R. A. Robinson made at Bradford in regard to company pharmacy and unqualified poison-dealers. Such words as his are needed at the present moment, and if they are backed by diplomatic but firm action the good ship *Pharmacy* may sail clear of the shoals into which it is at present drifting.

Congratulations.

Two chemists and druggists qualifying in one week to be called to the English Bar is surely a unique event. At the moment we can only recall the name of one member of the craft who achieved this distinction—we mean the late Mr. Richard Giles, who, when he retired from business in Bristol, read for the Bar and was called, but never practised. With him it was a mere intellectual exercise, as it is with many who are called; but we understand that both Mr. Freeman and Mr. Glyn-Jones intend to practise. It seems but yesterday that we wrote: "A little more than a year ago, Mr. Glyn-Jones was unknown to the trade." Yet the words were published on Christmas Day of 1896. Since then Mr. Glyn-Jones has become the best-known man in British pharmacy, and no one during the past seven years has done the craft such profitable service as he. Besides, he has created a unique organisation in the Chemists' Defence Association. The legal talent exhibited therein is now endorsed by the highest honours which the Council of Legal Education can bestow upon a man. Our congratulations on this distinction are mingled with regret that the practice which Mr. Glyn-Jones will shortly enter on means his severance from retail pharmacy; but the reputation he has secured and the friendships he has made should mean that for pharmacy he will be the Counsel of Defence. It is not yet time to say *Vale!* but we doubt not Mr. Glyn-Jones's *confrères* will give him a splendid send-off on his legal career.

Medicine for Mr. Pepys.

Mr. D'Arcy Power, Treasurer of the Samuel Pepys Club, recently read a paper before the Club as to who performed lithotomy on Mr. Samuel Pepys. As is known from the celebrated record that genial diarist has left, he was cut for stone in 1658 by Mr. Hollier. Hollier was Pepys's trusted medical adviser. In the Sloane MSS. in the British Museum there are two prescriptions written by Dr. J. M. and Dr. G. Joly. The first prescription is headed "Before he was cut for the stone by Mr. Hollier," and is ordered "for Mr. Peapes." It is a soothing-draught, and contains liquorice, marshmallow, cinnamon, milk, rose-water, and the whites of eggs carefully distilled over a slow fire. The dose ordered is 6 oz., with an ounce of syrupus althææ, to be taken in the morning and at bedtime. The second prescription is for a draught to be in readiness "For Mr. Peapes who was cut for ye stone by Mr. Hollier March ye 28th, and had a very great stone taken that day from him." This is for a cooling and demulcent drink containing syrup of lemon and syrup of horseradish. Mr. D'Arcy Power next proceeds to give the results of his investigations as to who the physicians were who wrote these prescriptions. Dr. J. M. he shows to be Dr. James Moleyns, who was "sur-

geon for the stone" at both St. Bartholomew's and St. Thomas's Hospitals; but of Dr. Joly nothing definite is known. The "Lancet," from which we take these notes, gives a full report of Mr. D'Arcy Power's paper.

Sweating Sub-postmasters.

A strong indictment of the payment system to sub-postmasters and their assistants as practised by the postal authorities has been issued, in the form of a pamphlet, by Mr. W. K. Inglis, chemist and druggist, Delph, Oldham. Mr. Inglis is President of the National Federation of Sub-postmasters, and his pamphlet "The Case of the Sub-postmaster" is a fearless *exposé* of methods which, if correct, are not creditable to the authorities at St. Martin's-le-Grand. The reforms particularly desired by Mr. Inglis, and by the Federation, are increased minimum salary for the very small office; higher commission on the sale of postage-stamps and on postal orders; an allowance towards rent of premises; holiday-allowance; pension, or proportionately higher pay to allow for lack of same; and recognition of merit and length of service. The question has been fairly well threshed out in the columns of the *C. & D.*, but Mr. Inglis has crystallised many more instances of "sweating" sub-offices, and his pamphlet should be read by all interested. The annual conference of the National Federation of Sub-postmasters was held at Bradford on Easter Monday, when Mr. R. W. Silson, chemist, Bradford, was in the chair, and Mr. W. K. Inglis was again elected President for the next year. A large number of delegates from all parts of the country were present, and addresses were given by the President and others on means for the betterment of their conditions of service. The speakers included Mr. Herbert Knott, chemist, Bolton, who is Secretary of the Sub-postmasters' Mutual Guarantee Company (Limited). Chemists who are sub-postmasters are invited to join the Federation, of which Mr. Edwin Allen, Post Office, Commercial Road, Liverpool, is Secretary. The subscription is 5s. per annum.

Scientific Progress.

New Remedies.—Fetron is a new ointment-basis which is said to have excellent absorptive power. It is a mixture of 3 per cent. of the anilide of stearic acid with petroleum jelly of melting-point 65° to 70°.—Callotropin is monobenzoyle-arbutin, and is suggested as an internal antiseptic in tuberculosis and scrophulosis.—The metallic salts of agaricinic acid are described in the current issue of Merck's "Report." The neutral bismuth salt is an insoluble powder of the formula $(C_{12}H_{21}O_5)_2Bi$. A basic bismuth compound and neutral salts of lithium and sodium are also described. Catarrh and phthisis are the two chief complaints for which these salts are prescribed.—Acetylparaethoxyphenylmethane, a compound melting at 86° to 88°, has been put on the market by Merck under the name of thermodin. It is, as its name implies, a febrifuge.

Vanillin.—An American patent has been taken out for the manufacture of vanillin from eugenol. The acet-isoeugenol is prepared in the usual manner, and dissolved to saturation in an ester of a fatty acid. Chromic acid is used as the oxidising-agent, and the acet-vanillin is then separated and decomposed in the usual manner, yielding vanillin.

A Non-flammable Celluloid.—A celluloid which takes fire with great difficulty may be prepared by mixing a suitable quantity of one of the alkyl esters of silicic acid, such as amyl or ethyl silicate, with the nitro-cellulose and camphor solution. A French patent has been taken out to protect this combination.

DURING the twelve months ending December, 1903, the imports of drugs and chemicals into the Transvaal amounted to 500,000*l.*, against 420,000*l.* for the corresponding period of 1902.

The Pharmacy Bill.

Deputation to Sir M. Hicks Beach.

ON Wednesday, April 13, a deputation of members of the Bristol Pharmaceutical Association waited upon Sir Michael Hicks-Beach to discuss the provisions of the Pharmacy Bill. The deputation consisted of Messrs. G. T. Turner, H. E. Matthews, G. W. Isaac, and A. J. Trebilco; and they met Sir Michael by appointment at the offices of the Bristol Chamber of Commerce. They were introduced by Mr. W. Mandeville Edwards, the President of the Chamber.

Mr. Matthews called Sir Michael's attention to the 1852 and 1868 Acts, explaining that their object was to safeguard the public interest in the dispensing of medicines and sale of poisons. He told Sir Michael how that was secured by education and examination of chemists, and how this condition was affected by company trading, the House of Lords having judicially decided in 1882 that the Acts do not apply to corporate bodies. Mr. Matthews indicated how the law has since been avoided, and gave a succinct account of the provisions of the Pharmacy Bill. In this connection he said that a very familiar objection to the proposals in the Bill as regards companies was the case of a shipowner, who is not necessarily a man to take any part in the running of a ship. He employed a duly certificated master to navigate his vessel. On the other hand, it is surely not wrong to insist that any shipper who owns his vessel must be qualified.

Sir Michael: I think we had better confine ourselves to pharmacy. Can anyone be the owner of a chemist's business without being himself a qualified pharmacist?

Mr. Matthews gave a reply in the negative.

Sir Michael: Although he conducts his business through a qualified pharmacist?

Mr. Matthews: That is so.

Sir Michael: At any rate, I sympathise with you that anybody who manages the business of a shop, whether he is representing a company, or whether he is representing himself, should be a qualified person. But why should you go further than that, and say that the owner of a business, the director of a company, should also pass an examination? I don't see it. Now, for instance, as a railway director I should be sorry to have to run an engine or do the technical work in the management of the railway.

Mr. Matthews said both things were not altogether on an equal footing. The directors of a pharmaceutical business were in law responsible for carrying on the business properly.

Sir Michael: Why more so than the director of a railway company? Surely a man might be a director of a pharmaceutical company without having any qualification for actual selling?

Mr. Matthews called attention to the Pharmacy Act of Ireland, and said that if individuals were allowed to be crushed out by companies the same state of things would before long be found in England as existed in Ireland.

Sir Michael replied that he did not see why individuals should be crushed out by companies. If individuals who managed businesses were to be qualified, both the individuals and the companies would be guarded. Why they should go further and say directors of companies should be qualified he could not see.

Mr. Matthews pointed out that they followed the lead of the Lord Chancellor in that clause. Speaking on the Companies Bill in 1901, the Lord Chancellor said he was convinced that companies ought to be subjected to the same restrictions as individuals.

Sir Michael: Any director of a company who sells over the counter.

Mr. Matthews: This matter has been thought out earnestly. It is entirely for the public safety, and we shall be satisfied if the public are protected. What happens frequently now is that when a man is unable to pass a qualifying examination he calls his relatives together and starts a company to carry on a pharmacist's business, although he has shown himself by examination to be incompetent.

Sir Michael: I am entirely with you there. He has no business to do that, and the law ought to prevent it.

Mr. Matthews: That is what we are aiming at.

Mr. Turner pointed out that if an employé of a company poisons somebody he is simply discharged, and the company does not suffer. An individual chemist is not in the same position, and if he by any accident poisons a person his reputation is at once gone, and he can no longer hold out in the same town.

Sir Michael thought the company would lose prestige. Continuing, he said: I cannot see why a board of directors should not manage a pharmaceutical business, the same as a brewing or railway business, without being qualified in the same sense as persons who do are qualified and do the work.

Mr. Turner: Supposing a company of solicitors were formed in the same way. They would consist of men who knew practically nothing about the law.

Sir Michael: The staff of men employed by that company would be acquainted with solicitors' work.

Mr. Matthews: The company would not be allowed to exist.

Sir Michael: I don't think the case applies at all. I don't want to argue the question any more. I have expressed myself. I think you will have to modify that clause.

Mr. Matthews said that if the public could be protected they would be perfectly satisfied, but they felt that was the best way they could put the clause. He said they might take it that with regard to the non-contentious clauses of the Bill Sir Michael was in accord with them, and that they might look to him for his sympathetic support of those clauses in Parliament.

Sir Michael replied that, while not pledging himself, he was in sympathy with what they had told him, with the exception of Clause 7.

Mr. Isaac said he thought it a great hardship that one man to embark in a business should be made to pass an examination, while a body of ignorant men could start a similar business without being interfered with.

Sir Michael: Then I think the law should be altered so as to relieve the owner, but not the director, of a private business from that obligation.

Sir Michael was cordially thanked for receiving the deputation.

Westminster Wisdom.

[(From our Parliamentary Representative.)]

WORK AGAIN.

Parliament reassembled on Tuesday, April 12, after the Easter recess.

THE NURSES' BILL.

In view of the possibility of the Nurses' Bill coming up for second reading on Friday, a rather weighty statement in opposition to the measure was circulated among members of Parliament. The statement pointed out that those who realise that the ultimate success of a nurse must depend upon her personal aptitude for the work deprecate the increasing tendency to attach so much importance to the passing of examinations at the expense of the cultivation of those qualities of observation, of sympathy, of cheerfulness, and of self-control so necessary to the success of a nurse in her treatment of a patient.

UNSTAMPED-MEDICINE PENALTIES.

In the House of Commons on Thursday, April 14, Mr. Edmund Robertson asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether his attention has been called to cases in which the Inland Revenue has obtained, under threat of legal process, payment of claims which had been afterwards judicially declared to be legally untenable; whether, notwithstanding such decisions, the Inland Revenue retains the money so illegally demanded and paid; and, if so, whether he will cause this practice to be discontinued.

Mr. Victor Cavendish, who answered the question, said the Chancellor of the Exchequer had had no such cases brought to his notice. If the hon. member would bring forward specific instances, they would receive attention.

Winter Session.

Society of Chemical Industry.

LONDON SECTION.

A MEETING of this Section was held at Burlington House, Piccadilly, W., on April 11, Mr. W. F. Reid in the chair. The names of the new members of the committee were first announced, these being Dr. Coleman, Mr. D. L. Howard, Mr. W. Pearce, Mr. B. Redwood, and Mr. C. Weightman. Reference was then made to the new Swiss Tariff, a translation of which has been sent to the Society by the Board of Trade.

The papers were next taken, the first two referring to

CERAMIC GLAZES.

Mr. W. A. THOMASON, who read the papers, mentioned that "leadless" glaze were had been found to contain lead in considerable proportion. The materials used were free from lead, the contamination being traced to the volatilisation of lead oxide from the sides of the "saggar" or to the transference of lead by volatilisation from lead-glazed articles placed in the same saggar as the leadless-glazed articles. The second paper was an interesting *résumé* of the steps taken by the Government to fix a limit of soluble lead in fritted lead. At first the impossibly low percentage of 2 was fixed, which was afterwards raised to 5 on the representations of the potters. The results of a series of experiments were shown in tabulated statements on the walls. These demonstrated the relative effects of dry and wet grinding, it being shown that fine dry grinding made the frit more soluble. Consequently if the dry lead bisilicate is ground too finely, the solubility limit may easily be passed.

The discussion did not occupy much time, Mr. BLUNT and the CHAIRMAN emphasising the fact that the Government should be more liberal in consulting the manufacturers concerned. The Chairman also referred to a French process of glazing in which the lead is volatilised on to the china from the sides of the saggar. Some of the old Chelsea china was glazed in a similar manner. The results obtained by Mr. Thomason, added the Chairman, showed that the question of lead-solubility is not one that can be settled by a few experiments in the laboratory.

ALUMINIUM COOKING-VESSELS.

The last paper was by Mr. Watson Smith (read by Dr. MESSEL) on "The Action of Certain Solutions on Aluminium and Zinc." The results obtained are interesting, in view of the conclusions of the author that aluminium is not quite suitable for certain cooking-utensils. Weak acetic acid acts on aluminium, especially in the presence of sodium chloride. Nitric acid at ordinary temperatures does not affect aluminium in the least, which led Mr. Watson Smith to suggest the use of box-shaped containers of that metal for the transportation and storage of nitric acid. Ammonia acts on aluminium, and so does sodium carbonate; salt, too, has considerable action on the metal. The author suggested that if aluminium could be produced at a cheaper rate, it could be used for storing and conveying water in place of zinc.

In the discussion which followed Mr. GUTTMANN mentioned that aluminium pipes have been in use for some years for the conveyance of nitric acid. He also alluded to the difficulty of soldering aluminium. Mr. BLUNT suggested that the metal be welded; and the CHAIRMAN contended that box-shaped vessels are not suitable containers for liquids.

MANCHESTER SECTION.

A SPECIAL meeting of this Section was held at the Municipal School of Technology on April 8. Mr. J. Carter Bell (Chairman of the Section) presided. There was a large attendance.

Fully an hour was occupied in a discussion as to the advisability of holding the meetings in future at the Victoria Hotel, in place of the Technical School. Eventually a ballot was taken, forty-three members voting for

holding the meetings elsewhere, and twenty-five for remaining at the Technical School.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Mr. F. Scudder was appointed Vice-Chairman of the Section, in the place of Dr. G. H. Bailey (retiring), and Mr. J. Hübner was re-elected Secretary. The following members were appointed the new committee: Messrs. W. H. Coleman, W. Thomson, H. Porter, K. E. Markel, W. B. Hart, and Dr. Grossmann.

Three Towns Chemists' Association.

A MEETING of this Association was held at 7 Whimble Street, Plymouth, on April 8, Mr. J. Barge (President) in the chair. There were also present Messrs. R. F. Roper, F. Maitland, Condry U'Ren, F. A. Goodwin, J. Davy Turney, J. A. Lamble, S. A. Perkins, F. A. Spear, H. D. Davey, H. M. Morgan, and G. Fairweather (Hon. Secretary).

THE PHARMACY BILL.

The SECRETARY read a letter from Mr. Bremridge, suggesting means of bringing before members of Parliament the principles of the Pharmacy Bill, and asking for their support. The CHAIRMAN said he quite agreed with the views set forth by Mr. Bremridge, and considered that letters addressed by members of the Association, couched in their own language, to their parliamentary representatives would carry far greater weight than if one official letter were sent by the Association. The Chairman further suggested that a Parliamentary Committee be formed to deal with questions relating to the Pharmacy Bill. Mr. SPEAR thought the communications from limited companies would tend to mislead the local representatives in Parliament. Mr. ROPER said it ought to be clearly stated that the Pharmaceutical Society in no way wished to affect co-operative societies carrying on business in a proper manner, but its duty was to prevent unqualified men, who themselves were unable to carry on the business of a chemist and druggist, forming themselves into a company and employing a qualified chemist, and thus being enabled to usurp the legitimate titles of the chemist and druggist. Mr. TURNER reminded them that the Government were pledged to introduce a Bill, in which would probably be embodied some of the clauses of the present Bill, and chemists should be prepared to take immediate action.

The following Parliamentary Committee was subsequently elected: Messrs. J. Barge, C. J. Park, R. F. Roper, F. A. Goodwin, for Plymouth; F. Maitland, J. A. Lamble, C. T. Weary, for Devonport and Stonehouse.

OTHER MATTERS.

A letter from the Cardiff Association was read asking the Association's support for Mr. Hagon, but after discussion no resolution was passed.

The time and place of the annual outing were next considered, and a combined gathering of chemists from Exeter, Torquay, and the Three Towns is the probable outcome.

Stockport Chemists' Association.

THE monthly meeting of this Association was held at the Albert Hall on April 6, Mr. Wm. Dodge in the chair. There was no special business before the meeting, and the time was utilised for the discussion of business subjects.

North Staffordshire Chemists' Association.

THE annual meeting was held at Hanley on Thursday evening, April 7, before the annual dinner, Mr. J. Averill, J.P., Stafford (President), in the chair. Mr. WESTON POOLE submitted his report as Treasurer, which showed a balance in hand. The report was adopted. Mr. EDMUND JONES (Secretary) then gave a brief *résumé* of the work of the past session. It was afterwards decided that the business of the Association next session should be conducted between seven and 8.30 p.m. The election of officers then took place as follows: Council, Messrs. T. Charles, C. A.

Morrison, R. G. Emery, W. Melling, W. B. Allison, G. R. Hankinson, J. Averill, Weston Poole, Edmund Jones, T. Bentley, T. C. Cornwell, W. Oldham, W. Marson, and F. Adams; President, Mr. J. Averill (Stafford); Vice-Presidents, Messrs. T. C. Cornwell and W. Marson; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Weston Poole; Hon. Secretary, Mr. Edmund Jones; Assistant Hon. Secretary, Mr. T. Bentley. The officers were heartily thanked for their services during the past year.

Great Yarmouth Pharmaceutical Association.

THE annual meeting was held at 156 King Street, Yarmouth, on Thursday, April 7, Mr. W. Sheppard Poll presiding over a capital attendance of members. The SECRETARY, in his annual report, stated that the Association is in a very flourishing condition, and has reached a high-water mark in membership. Nine meetings had been held during the year, and they had been very well attended, useful work being accomplished. As Treasurer he reported a satisfactory balance in hand. Mr. W. Sheppard Poll was re-elected President, and Mr. Harvey Palmer Hon. Secretary and Treasurer for the sixth time. There were five nominations for the committee, and voting resulted in the re-election of Messrs. T. B. Male, J. F. Roberts, and J. S. Shearman.

Manchester Pharmaceutical Association.

THE annual meeting of the members of this Association was held at the Victoria Hotel on April 13, Mr. G. S. Woolley (the President) in the chair.

THE ANNUAL REPORT

detailed the several meetings which had been held during the session, which was the thirty-seventh in the history of the Association. Death had robbed them during the year of Mr. John Taylor, of Bolton, and Mr. J. T. Smith, of Radcliffe. There had been an increase of three members on the number in the previous year; total, 105 members on the roll.

THE TREASURER'S STATEMENT

of accounts showed a balance in hand at the commencement of the session of 17*l.* 17*s.*, total receipts 74*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.*; the expenditure leaving a balance now in hand of 21*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.*

The CHAIRMAN, in moving the adoption of the report and balance-sheet, said he should like again to allude to the loss the Association had sustained by the deaths of Mr. Taylor and Mr. Smith. They all knew what a sturdy man Mr. Taylor was, and Mr. Smith was a steadfast and staunch friend of the Association. He (the Chairman) formed the acquaintance of Mr. Smith during his apprenticeship at Bury a long time ago, and they continued friends to the last; and he suggested that a letter of condolence with the family of the late Mr. Smith be sent by the Secretary on behalf of the Association. He had already sent a letter on his own behalf. The year had been a gratifying and successful one. Papers had been read by Mr. Ringer, Mr. Grier, and Mr. Kirkley; and Mr. Harry Kemp had raised an interesting discussion on the subjects suggested by the Federation of Local Associations, which had been of considerable usefulness. The successful *soirée* in the Art Gallery was calculated to strengthen the Association. The Treasurer's statement was satisfactory. They had lost 9*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.* on the *soirée*, and a little on the annual dinner. They had expected to be left with a deficit on the year's working, but instead of that they had an increased balance in hand. Out of their 105 members eighty-six had paid their subscriptions. Three Associates had also paid their dues, leaving sixteen who had not paid. It was expected the British Pharmaceutical Conference would hold its annual meeting in Manchester in 1906 or 1907. If held in 1907, it would be exactly twenty years since the last Conference was held in Manchester.

The motion was carried unanimously.

ELECTIONS.

Mr. George S. Woolley was unanimously re-elected President of the Association.

Mr. W. Kirkby and Mr. Harry Kemp were re-elected Vice-Presidents.

Mr. A. J. Pidd was re-elected Treasurer, and Mr. J. C. Kidd Secretary.

The Auditor (Mr. A. L. Blain) was also re-elected.

After the ordinary business had been concluded, a discussion took place on "The Pharmacy Legislation at present before Parliament." Mr. WOOLLEY said he had gone carefully through the Bill, and it seemed to him to be a fair one, although he could not say that he had thoroughly mastered it. It seemed to be too liberal to company-traders. If there is any erring, it is on the side of liberality. He did not see why such a Bill should not become law.

Exeter Association of Chemists and Druggists.

THE annual meeting of this Association was held, on April 12, at the residence of Mr. F. W. Vinden (the President), who was in the chair. There were also present Messrs. F. Sloman, P. F. Rowsell, H. Wippell Gadd (Hon. Secretary), E. Lemmon, J. W. Lake, and J. Harris.

Mr. H. WIPPELL GADD read the

ANNUAL REPORTS,

which showed that during the year four business meetings of the Association had been held. The President, Secretary, and Messrs. Henry Gadd, J. H. Lake, and T. C. Milton represented the Association at the meeting of the British Pharmaceutical Conference at Bristol in July last, and the Secretary also attended the meeting of the Federation of Local Associations. The Annual Dinner has this year been revived, and a very enjoyable evening was spent on February 3. The Association has suffered during the year the loss by death of their late President, Mr. Stocker. One new member has been elected, making the number the same as last year. Mr. J. W. LAKE (Hon. Treasurer) reported a balance in hand of 1*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.*, and both reports were unanimously adopted.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The following officers were then elected for the ensuing year: President, Mr. J. W. Lake; Vice-President, Mr. F. W. Vinden; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. J. Harris; Hon. Secretary, Mr. H. Wippell Gadd.

THE P.A.T.A.

The Association considered the communication from the P.A.T.A. in reference to the resolution passed by its Council relative to a breach of its regulations through the purchase by chemists of P.A.T.A. articles for resale to other chemists at less than the P.A.T.A. minimum wholesale prices.

Mr. P. F. ROWSELL thought the Association should approve of the action of the P.A.T.A. in the matter. Every association throughout the country was doing it, and it seemed only fair to the P.A.T.A., having regard to the way in which it was working in the interest of the wholesalers, manufacturers, and retailers, that they should honourably adhere to the P.A.T.A. rules. Without the hearty co-operation of every section of the trade the P.A.T.A. would cease to exist. There was a very good skit in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST (see April 2, page 546)—the three wheels, wholesaler, retailer, and manufacturer, showing that if one of them got out of order the whole thing came to the ground. He moved a resolution endorsing the action of the P.A.T.A. and pledging the Association to maintain its regulations.

Mr. E. LEMMON, in seconding the resolution, said he did not see they could do anything else than adhere to the strict regulations when they saw the enormous boon the P.A.T.A. had been to chemists.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

PHARMACY BILL.

A circular was read from the Federation of Local Pharmaceutical Associations suggesting the desirability of every member writing to his Parliamentary representative drawing attention to the importance of the Pharmacy Bill.

Mr. H. WIPPELL GADD said he did not think it desirable for every member to write to the parliamentary representative. He, however, thought the Federation was justifying its existence, seeing that it had approached every member of Parliament on the subject. On behalf of the Association he had twice written their member, Sir Edgar Vincent.—The Association approved of the action of the Hon. Secretary.

SHOPS BILL.

The Federation of Local Pharmaceutical Associations also forwarded for the consideration of the Association a copy of the Shops Bill, introduced by Sir Charles Dilke.

After discussion, a resolution was unanimously passed approving the general principle of having an Early-closing Bill.

VARLÆ.

The Association considered the qualifications of the various candidates for the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society, and suggested the names of those who should receive the support of local members.

The arrangements for the reception of the Plymouth Association on the occasion of their visit in the summer were further discussed, but it was decided to consider the subject on receiving more definite information from the Plymouth Association.

On the motion of Mr. VINDEN, seconded by Mr. LEMMON, Mr. Fisher, of Topsham, was elected a member of the Association.

Various matters affecting local trade interests were afterwards discussed.

Festivities.

An Inaugural Dinner.

A dinner took place at the Trocadero, Piccadilly Circus, W., on April 9, to celebrate the incorporation of Houghtons (Limited), the well-known photographic dealers of High Holborn, W.C. Mr. G. Houghton was in the chair, and was supported by the principals of the several firms which together form the new company. The dinner was a distinctly smart affair, and the courses were helped along by an excellent musical programme. After dinner a toast-list was gone through. Mr. Thos. Bedding, in proposing "Houghtons (Limited)," sketched the history of the firm of G. Houghton & Son and the other firms which now form Houghtons (Limited). Mr. Edgar Houghton, in replying, mentioned that the company employ some six hundred people, and are the largest makers of and dealers in British-made photographic cameras. The dinner, Mr. Houghton added, is to be an annual affair. The other toasts were "The Press," "The Works," "The Staff," "The Chairman and Directors," and "The Guests." During the evening a flash-light photograph was taken, and the toasts were interspersed with a good number of capital songs.

North Staffordshire Chemists' Association.

The annual dinner was held at the Grand Hotel, Hanley, on Thursday, April 7, the President (Mr. J. Averill, J.P., Stafford) in the chair. Amongst those present were the Mayor of Hanley (Councillor H. B. Shirley), Mr. W. Gowen Cross, J.P. (Shrewsbury), Dr. Charles Symes (Liverpool), Mr. W. Marson (Stafford), Mr. Weston Poole (Newcastle), Mr. Edmund Jones (Hanley), Hon. Secretary, Mr. T. Bentley (Stoke), Mr. A. W. Gerrard (President of the Midland Pharmaceutical Association), Mr. F. Adams, Mr. R. G. Emery, Mr. H. P. Jones, Mr. Withers, and Mr. Bates (Stoke), Mr. B. Parker and Mr. A. Fernley (Burslem), Mr. Melling (Tunstall), Mr. L. Piggin, Mr. S. Challinor (Fenton), Mr. A. F. Bottomley and Mr. W.

Burrell (Hanley), Mr. H. W. Oliver (Shrewsbury), Mr. Crofts (London), and Mr. C. A. Morrison (Newcastle). The programme was tastefully drawn up by Mr. Edmund Jones, quotations from Shakespeare and other authors following the names of the proposers of and responders to toasts. Sandwiched between the toasts was a good programme of music, contributed by Messrs. C. L. Forrester, A. W. Withers, R. G. Emery, A. W. Gerrard, and T. Bentley (gramophone). Mr. S. E. Melling (Manchester) gave several recitations from Kipling.

After the loyal toasts the President proposed "The Pharmaceutical Society," in the course of his speech referring to what the Society has accomplished. He spoke also of the Council's Pharmacy Bill as well as the Government one, and closed with a sympathetic appeal for the Benevolent Fund, stating that one member of the North Staffordshire Association, who had unfortunately become reduced in circumstances, had recently received substantial financial assistance from the Fund.

Mr. W. Gowen Cross responded. Speaking of the Pharmacy Bill, he expressed the hope that the Society's wants and the Governmental ones would be harmonised satisfactorily, although if the principle of the majority report of the Commission on Poisons was to be made the law of the land he hoped chemists and druggists would join hand to hand, and do their best to say, "We will have no such thing." (Hear, hear.)

Dr. Charles Symes also responded, dealing, in the course of a lengthy speech, with the origin of company trading and the Pharmaceutical Society's efforts to ensure that such trading should be done under the conditions prescribed by the Pharmacy Act. The House of Lords' decision revealed a weakness in the Act, now attempted to be remedied in the Pharmacy Bill. Exception had been taken to Clause 7, which provides that if a company carries on business as a chemist and druggist the whole of the directors must be qualified persons. It is not our business, Dr. Symes remarked, to say that the Council are prepared to modify that clause; in fact the Council had passed a resolution deciding to stand by it to a certain extent, and in small companies this should certainly be the case, but in very large companies one saw the difficulty in requiring that a director who controls, say, the ironmongery department should be a registered chemist and druggist. He had no doubt, however, that there would be ways and means of meeting this difficulty. What they wanted to ensure was that when the time came for the fight for the crucial point of any one particular clause the various associations would do their utmost to support the principle of the Bill and to see that no material alteration should be made which would emasculate the measure and render it useless. (Applause.) Dr. Symes also spoke on territorial representation.

The toast of "The Local Governing Bodies" was proposed by Mr. Edmund Jones, and

The Mayor of Hanley and Councillor Marson (Stafford) responded.

Mr. Weston Poole proposed "The President," the toast being received with musical honours. Dr. Symes, in proposing "The Association," referred to the fact that the members had a very excellent President, who had been re-elected year after year, and it never seemed to have occurred to them to be in any way jealous of the fact that the President is not a Hanley man. (Applause.) In replying, Mr. Edmund Jones expressed his great gratification at having heard from outside sources that the Association had justified its existence and was doing a good and useful work.

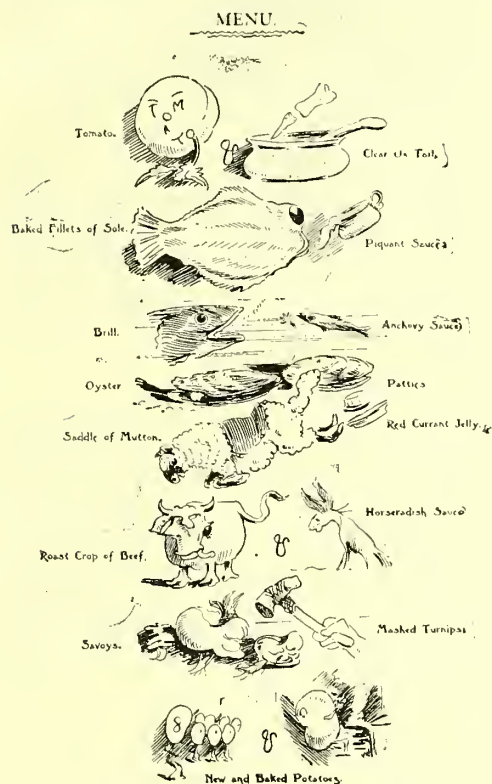
Mr. Percy Jones gave "The Visitors," Mr. Gerrard and Mr. Melling (Manchester) replying, and other toasts were "The Press" and "The Ladies." In the course of the evening two guineas was collected for the Pharmaceutical Benevolent Fund.

Bradford Chemists' Association.

The seventh annual dinner was held on Tuesday night at the Royal Hotel, Bradford. The President (Alderman Dunn) was supported by Sir Ernest Flower, M.P., the Mayor of Bradford (Alderman David Wade), Alderman R. A. Robinson, L.C.C., Mr. F. Pilkington-Sargeant and

Mr. Worfolk (Leeds), Mr. W. Pollard (Wakefield), Mr. R. Broadhead (Batley), Mr. Pickard (Dewsbury), and a very large company of the members of the Association.

The menu as presented in print to the members was designed by Mr. Fred. Reynolds, of Leeds, and we reproduce half of it :



The rest was roast chicken, York ham, "cust hard," Swiss meringues, Neapolitan ices, and dessert; each being quaintly represented by the gifted artist, who did not venture to depict the liquid portion of the fare.

After dinner and the loyal toasts, Mr. R. A. Robinson proposed "The Houses of Parliament," explaining in regard to

THE PHARMACY BILL

that all that is proposed by the Pharmaceutical Society is that the company shall have the same restrictions and be subject to the same law as the individual. (Applause.) Such a proposition would commend itself to all fair-minded men. They say it is only right and fair that if companies carry on business as chemists and sell poisons, the directors should also be qualified people. He commended that view to the attention of Sir Ernest Flower, who would no doubt be interested to know that no fewer than 198 members of the House of Commons had informed the Pharmaceutical Society that they would give their very closest and most favourable consideration to an amendment of the law in that particular direction. Referring to Government legislation regarding the sale of poisons, Mr. Robinson said this is entirely a matter for the protection of the public. The Government approached the question from the point of view that they could not see why certain poisons used in agriculture and horticulture could not be sold by other persons than registered chemists, and they appeared to think that there is a necessity for it in some parts of the country. His answer was emphatically that there is no part of the country where the agriculturist or the horticulturist cannot get quite easily the preparations which he wants for his business. There is no reason why the salutary principle of the Act of 1868, that none but chemists shall sell poisons, should be broken down, and he did not think that the present Government would lend themselves to such an unjust proceeding. He sincerely

hoped that in the public interest Sir Ernest Flower would be disposed to join with the other members of Parliament who had entered into the undertaking to which he had referred. (Applause.)

The toast having been honoured, Sir Ernest Flower said, in reply, that he thought the case which had been made out in regard to the danger of the wholesale dissemination of poisons throughout the length and breadth of the country was such that such a measure could not seriously be contemplated for a moment. He did not believe himself that the Board of Agriculture would seriously persevere with the proposal, but unfortunately a Departmental Committee had sat upon the matter, and it appeared to him, upon a very slight and cursory examination, that the case had not been as fairly and fully put before that Committee as it might have been. (Applause.) He thought, however, that they might trust the common sense of Parliament, which was greatly concerned for the protection of public health, to prevent any such reckless and dangerous dissemination as had been suggested. With regard to the Pharmacy Bill, there could be no doubt whatever as to what the intention of Parliament was, and it could only be a matter of time and opportunity before what was applicable to individuals was also made applicable to associations of individuals. That was the common sense of the matter, and they knew that common sense in the main did prevail in the Houses of Parliament—(laughter)—as well as in other distinguished assemblies. He assured them that he looked with a most benevolent eye upon the efforts of the Pharmaceutical Society to promote the interests of the public health, and he wished every success to the Society. (Applause.)

The President then proposed the toast of "The City and Trade of Bradford," to which the Mayor of Bradford responded. Mr. J. T. Metcalfe proposed "The Pharmaceutical Society," Mr. R. A. Robinson replying at some length, and again referring to the Pharmacy Bill, saying :

He did not know how far the Government might adopt the view of the Pharmaceutical Society or the Society adopt the view of the Government, but they had to remember that the Government had a right to say to them in regard to Clause 7 that there was a strong difference of opinion. It was true that there was such a difference of opinion. But he held emphatically that their position was entirely sound. If they were going to say that it did not matter about the seven directors not being qualified so long as one employed man was qualified, what was to become of the position of the doctors, lawyers, and dentists? Would the lawyers agree that seven unqualified persons forming a company might carry on legal practice if they employed a qualified man? Of course they would not. The Incorporated Law Society would settle the matter by striking that man off the register, and they were in so strong a position that no man could be found who would be willing to take the risk. He believed that within the next month they would have to give an answer to the question whether they would have the Bill, the whole Bill, and nothing but the Bill, or whether they had not better accept what they could get, even if it were at the cost of the loss of some part of that which they cherished. This was a matter which they would all have to consider carefully, and he hoped that the Council in dealing with it would have the advantage of enjoying their confidence. (Applause.)

The toast of "The Bradford Association" was proposed by Mr. W. Pollard (Wakefield), and Mr. D. S. Priestley (secretary) responded. Mr. Priestley stated that the number at the dinner was 65 as against 55 last year.

Mr. Arthur Hanson proposed "Kindred Associations," and Mr. Beacock (Leeds) and Mr. Bettie (Ripon) responded. Mr. R. W. Silson proposed "The Visitors," and Mr. F. Pilkington-Sargeant, in replying, said he hoped that Alderman Robinson would understand that the view of the West Riding Chemists on the Pharmacy Bill was that they must stick to Clause 7 at all costs, and would view with alarm and distrust any compromise which gave away that clause. Mr. Preston (Leeds) also spoke; and the proceedings terminated with the drinking of the health of the Chairman on the proposition of Mr. Mitchell.

During the evening music was rendered by Mr. Arthur Hanson, Mr. A. T. Bailes, Mr. H. R. Jackson, Mr. Charles Mackay, and Mr. W. Brinson, with Mr. Hanson and Mr. J. A. Mitchell as accompanists.

Bristol Pharmaceutical Association.

On Wednesday evening, April 13, the annual dinner was held at the Royal Hotel, College Green, Bristol, and was largely attended. Mr. G. T. Turner presided, in the absence of Mr. J. W. White, in Italy. There were also present Dr. Clement Hailes, Dr. Bertram Rogers, Professor Travers (University College), Messrs. W. S. Glyn-Jones (London), W. L. Currie (Glasgow), D. Anthony (Cardiff), R. Drane (Cardiff), H. Wippell Gadd (Exeter), B. John (Bath), R. Munford (Cardiff), A. Hagon (Cardiff), L. Vigis (Bath), W. A. Shenstone (Clifton College), T. Luxton (Exeter), W. J. Hallett (Bath), F. S. Moore (Bath), and most of the local members. Following the loyal toasts, the Chairman expressed regret at the inability of Mr. S. R. Atkins to attend.

Mr. W. A. Shenstone, F.R.S., then proposed "The Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain," referring to his old connection with the Square and to the good work the Society has done since it was founded in 1841. He also spoke of what Bristol pharmacists have done.

Mr. Glyn-Jones responded, being received with loud applause, which was renewed when the Chairman recalled the legal distinctions that he had attained. He acknowledged the appreciation with which the work of the P.A.T.A. was regarded, and the kindness with which the announcement of his own legal success had been received. Nothing was, he said, more encouraging to a man than the fact that he had behind him the good wishes of his fellow-men who followed the same calling. He did not know anything of which a chemist and druggist could be more proud than the honour of responding for the toast of the Pharmaceutical Society. Pharmacy owed a good deal to members of the Shenstone family, and Mr. Shenstone had proposed the toast in eloquent terms. He heard people complain of the Pharmaceutical Society in times past and of the Society of the present day; but he thought at any rate that the chemist and druggist was misguided if he did not recognise the claims of the Society. He proceeded to refer to it and the work of the Council in detail, and, touching on the Pharmacy Bill, spoke of the interview with Sir M. Hicks-Beach that day, saying that if they got the Legislature to recognise that there was at present an evil affecting the public and the rights of qualified chemists, they were bound to look at the remedy suggested for that evil. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. W. L. Currie also replied, and he made humorous reference to the notice that had appeared in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* that he seemed to be a peripatetic propagandist on behalf of the Society. He added that he thought the time is not far distant when the question of education would require to be looked into very seriously. At present examination is not altogether a test of a man's knowledge, and a man before he goes up for examination ought certainly to have a recognised curriculum of teaching. (Hear, hear.) He emphasised the necessity of unity amongst chemists and druggists.

Mr. H. E. Matthews submitted "The Medical Profession," to which Dr. Hailes and Dr. Bertram Rogers replied. Professor Travers, F.R.S., proposed "The Bristol and other Pharmaceutical Local Associations," Mr. Taylor and Mr. Hagon (Cardiff) responding. Mr. Pitchford afterwards complimented the visitors, and with the toast were associated the names of Mr. John (Bath), Mr. Wippell Gadd (Exeter), and Dr. Drane (Cardiff).

During the evening a delightful programme of music was rendered, Miss M. Battagel contributing songs, whilst the Apollo Glee-singers—Messrs. White, Monks, Davey, and Thomas—sang quartets.

The subscribers are to appoint the first directors. Qualification, one share. Remuneration, 50*l.* each per annum.

GOLDEN VALLEY OCHRE AND OXIDE CO. (LIMITED).—Capital 15,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the Golden Valley Ochre and Oxide Works at Wick, Glos., and to carry on the business of miners, smelters, quarrymen, lime-burners, chemists, druggists, dysalsters, oil and colour men, paint and colour grinders, manufacturers of and dealers in earth-colours, oxides of iron, fullers' earth, stromtic, ochre, and chemical, industrial or other preparations, &c. No initial public issue. The subscribers are to appoint the first directors. Qualification 100 shares: remuneration as fixed by the company.

GAMES EVANS CASH CHEMISTS (LIMITED).—Capital 300*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of wholesale and retail manufacturing chemists and druggists, manufacturers of, dealers in, and vendors of the specialties of W. G. Evans. The first subscribers are: W. G. Evans, 54 Clare Road, Cardiff, drug-store proprietor; P. W. Cutting, 32 Ryder Street, Cardiff, clerk; Miss N. McFarish, 54 Clare Road, Cardiff; F. D. Arnot, 8 Oakley Street, Cardiff, patent-medicine vendor; W. Lodge, 25 Lionel Road, Canton, Cardiff, frame maker; Mrs. M. A. Morgan, 127 Severn Road, Canton, Cardiff; and Mrs. A. L. Evans, 54 Clare Road, Cardiff. No initial public issue. Registered without articles of association.

JOHN MACKAY & CO. (LIMITED).—Registered in Edinburgh. Capital 35,000*l.*, in 5*l.* shares. Objects: To take over and carry on the business of wholesale druggists and manufacturing chemists, commission agents, aerated-water manufacturers, and gelatine-manufacturers, Canning Street, Edinburgh, Vermont Street, Glasgow, Clayton Street, Newcastle, and Peggy's Mill, Cramond, Midlothian. The first subscribers are: W. B. Mackay, wholesale druggist, 17 Lennox Street, Edinburgh; George D. Mackay, wholesale druggist, Inveralmond, Cramond; Adam Kennedy, wholesale druggist, 3 Douglas Gardens, Edinburgh; Mrs. E. Mackay, 17 Lennox Gardens, Edinburgh; Mrs. H. G. Mackay, Inveralmond, Cramond; Mrs. Margaret Kennedy, 3 Douglas Gardens, Edinburgh; and James F. Mackay, W.S., 29 Rutland Square, Edinburgh. Office, 4, Canning Street, Edinburgh.

BEWELL'S (LIMITED).—Capital 2,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and carry on the business of chemists and druggists now carried on by J. E. Houseman at 19 and 21 Pitfield Street, Hoxton, and 59 Southgate Road, Islington, as "Bewell's Drug Stores." The first subscribers are: J. E. Houseman, 19-21 Pitfield Street, Hoxton, drug-store proprietor; Mrs. K. Houseman, 19-21 Pitfield Street, Hoxton; F. A. Mitchell, 9 Charles Square, Hoxton, W., estate agent; J. C. Caster, 33 Queen's Road, Dalston, traveller; H. E. Stockwell, 19 Charles Square, Hoxton, clerk; Miss S. C. Dodson, Liddington House, Portway, West Ham; and Miss J. E. Stapley, 14, Barwick Road, Forest Gate. No initial public issue. The first directors are J. E. Houseman (managing director), J. W. Houseman, and J. H. Allen. Qualification 1 share.

INSTITUTE OF HYGIENE (LIMITED).—Capital 5,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire from J. G. Ramsey the undertaking founded by him in London under the title of the "Institute of Hygiene," and to promote the advancement of hygiene in all or any of its branches. The first subscribers are: J. C. Thresh, M.D., London Hospital Medical College, E., Medical Officer of Health; J. W. H. Eyre, M.D., Guy's Hospital, S.E., bacteriologist; J. S. Goodall, M.B. Lond., Middlesex Hospital, W., physiologist; T. C. Cleary, 36 New Broad Street, E.C., gentleman; W. G. McDowell, 34 Devonshire Street, W., medical practitioner; J. C. Ramsey, 39 Devonshire Street, Harley Street, W., gentleman; and M. Priest, A.I.C., London Hospital Medical College, E., analyst. No initial public issue. The subscribers are to appoint the first directors. Qualification, 100*l.* Remuneration, two guineas each per meeting attended (chairman three guineas). Registered office, 34 Devonshire Street, Harley Street, W.

SALE OF SHARES.—At Huddersfield on April 11, 100 preference shares in Needhams (Limited), chemists, realised 19*s.* 9*d.* each.

ILFORD (LIMITED).—The directors have declared an interim dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum for the half-year ending April 30.

PARKE'S DRUG-STORES (LIMITED) announce the payment of the dividend for the half-year on the preference shares at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, less income-tax. The transfer-books will be closed from April 13 to 20 inclusive.

New Companies & Company News.

S. T. FERMENT & CO. (LIMITED).—Registered March 31, Capital 4,000*l.*, in 100*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and turn to account certain inventions relating to the industrial application of the ferment *Saccharomyces Thermantitonus*, for the purpose of manufacturing fermentable solutions (whether for consumption or otherwise), to adopt an agreement with G. Johnson and P. R. Hare, and to carry on the business of brewers, maltsters, &c. No initial public issue.



TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

Cream of Tartar.

SIR,—We are very much surprised at a paragraph in your issue of April 2, stating that London merchants could not obtain cream of tartar free from lead and arsenic, and it may interest your readers to know that such a difficulty does not exist in Belfast. We have got in stock tartar 98.7, and it is guaranteed by the shippers to be free from lead and arsenic. We have had it analysed here and find the guarantee given to be quite correct.

Yours truly,
Belfast, April 11. **SHAW & JAMISON.**

Spurious Almond Oil.

SIR,—Will you allow us again to warn the trade as to the substitution of the oil of peach or apricot kernels (ol. amgd. persic. dulc.) for the true "almond oil" (oleum amygdalæ P.B.)? We have just had sent to us by a client of ours in the North a sample which bears the label "Pure almond oil," which is nothing more than the product of apricot-kernels. As it is put forward under the false name, the quotation appears very low (being about 3d. per lb. under the wholesale price of the true oil). As a matter of fact, it is about 5d. per lb. above its actual market-value. As detection of the substitution is nowadays a perfectly simple matter, all those handling the oil should realise the risk that they run under the Food and Drugs Act by any neglect to ascertain the real nature of what they offer.

We are, yours truly,
STAFFORD ALLEN & SONS (LIMITED).

7 Cowper Street, E.C., April 12.

Antiseptic Throat-pastilles.

Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb (Limited), Liverpool, have received the subjoined letter from the Board of Inland Revenue:

Inland Revenue, Somerset House,
London, W.C.

9th April, 1904.

Gentlemen,—With reference to your letter of the 19th ultimo, I am directed by the Board of Inland Revenue to acquaint you that in their opinion the title "Antiseptic Throat-pastilles" involves liability to medicine stamp-duty, and that no indulgence or concession has been granted by them in respect of articles sold under this descriptive title.

I am to explain that, so far as the question of liability to medicine stamp-duty depends merely on the wording of the descriptive label attached to the medicine, the views of the Board are as follows: (1) Medicines described by reference to a disease are liable—*e.g.*, cough-mixture, corn-pain. (2) Medicines described by reference to an organ of the body alone are not liable—*e.g.*, "liver-pills," "hepatic mixture," "bronchial mixture." (3) Medicines described by reference to their operation in general terms are not liable—*e.g.*, "aperient pills," "emollient ointment," "astringent mixture." (4) But if to an organ of the body a word or words be added indicating the operation of the medicine upon the organ, liability is incurred—*e.g.*, "blood-purifier," "liver-invigorator," "aperient liver-mixture."

The above observations relate solely to descriptive labels on the medicine. It must be clearly understood that if any claim be made to a proprietary or exclusive right in the medicine, or to a secret art for preparing the same, or if the medicine be held out or recommended in any other way—for instance, by a leaflet, handbill, or advertisement—as beneficial for the prevention, cure, or relief of any disorder, malady, &c., incident to or in any way affecting the human body, liability to the duty would undoubtedly be incurred by such recommendation.

I am to add that the only exemption which the Board have granted in favour of dutiable preparations sold in large quantities is in regard to sales of "cough-lozenges"

by wholesale dealers in bottles or boxes containing not less than 4 lbs., and that this concession is restricted to the sale of "cough-lozenges" alone.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

E. E. STOODLEY, Secretary.

Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb (Limited).

A Grave Problem.

SIR,—There are indications that the Government may do something for pharmacy "for a consideration." That "consideration" is liberty to the unqualified men to deal in certain poisons. Now, although Mr. Cross and his followers have constantly urged that we are opposed to this on purely financial grounds, the reverse is the case, and were no other point involved, we might at once agree to treat with the Government on its own lines. But there is another point. We have a duty to the public which we cannot conscientiously neglect. I know that Mr. Cross and his sympathisers would say this is "bunkum," but it is hard fact. It is part of our duty, as chemists, to save the people from getting poisoned, and we are not free to hand them over to the tender mercies of seedsmen and ironmongers. I have no doubt the Duke of Devonshire and others are quite sincere in their opinion that there is no danger, but that opinion is based on pure ignorance. We, backed by the Coroners of England, are quite sincere in our opinion that there is danger, and our opinion is based on knowledge. The monetary consideration does not weigh with us so much as it does with Mr. Cross and his followers. He has not been able to show that we derive much profit from the sale of agricultural and horticultural poisons, but we have been able to show the kind of profit he expects from them, by exposing the profit he has on his arsenical ant-destroyers. So far as profit goes we would certainly be better off if trade in these poisons were set free. The first result would be a tremendous increase in the output of them, and chemists would handle probably at least 50 per cent. of this increase, simply because they have learned in the school of adversity to push business harder, and take a smaller profit than seedsmen and ironmongers do. Of course, it is this increased output that manufacturers are working for, but before every consideration of whatever kind comes this question, Would an increased output mean increased danger to the people? Most certainly it would. The danger would be increased in a higher proportion than the output. In every case of accident with these poisons which has come to my notice there has been some violation of the law, and nothing can be clearer than this—that the present restrictions are proving effective where they are faithfully carried out. At present accidents are mostly due to careless handling by manufacturers and unqualified dealers. They are generally connected with defective packing and careless despatch. Were these poisons sold generally by unqualified dealers, however, the people themselves would become careless, and bring about endless dangers and accidents. I can give a case by way of illustration. A clergyman asked me for a 2-gal. drum of weed-killer, and when I produced my poisons-book he was startled, and asked if it was so very dangerous. When I explained its real nature he said he had got it for years from an unqualified dealer, and he trembled to think what might have happened, as he never got any warning and never took any special precautions. He said he would not care to have the stuff about his place at all, and I made no sale. "Just so," say the manufacturers; "that is why we wish to take it out of your hands." But even the manufacturers will own that I placed my duty before my interest in this case, and they may be certain that every well-trained chemist does the same. If the faithful discharge of our duty prevents an increase in the sale of these poisons, that is no reason why we should be unfaithful to our trust. A great increase in the sale of poisons is not desirable in the interests of the people, and the prevention of such increase is one of the objects and duties of the Pharmacy Acts. Were this trade made free to anybody, poisons would be pushed with as much shamelessness as yellow pills, kidney-pods, or bile-spuds are pushed now. The tremendous pushing of quack medicines is bad enough, but a similar state of matters in

connection with deadly poisons would be disastrous, and no man's life would be safe.

These are points which we must well consider before we make up our minds to barter away the safety of the people for a Government "consideration." Even if that "consideration" were larger than it is likely to be, our consciences are too large a price to pay for it. If we do not actually oppose these poisons suggestions in the House of Commons, we must at least state the case in plain language to the Government, so that if they are resolved to bring this great evil on the country they may do so with their eyes open.

Dumfries, April 11.

Yours, &c.,
JAMES REID.

Pharmaceutical Council Election.

SIR,—I am quite of opinion that gallant little Wales should be represented on the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society, and I think the present a good opportunity of doing justice to the Principality. In Mr. Hagon we have apparently the chosen one to represent Wales, and I am told by those who know him that he is well fitted for the post, well equipped in every respect to speak for his constituents as well as for the trade generally. In his address he speaks with no hesitating voice on the question of the day—*i.e.*, the new Pharmacy Bill—and in his advocacy of compulsory annual registration he is equally emphatic; and if elected a member of the Council he would, I feel sure, work hard in the direction of widening the scope and influence of the Society—a much-to-be-desired movement.

Chesterfield, April 11.

Yours faithfully,
A. W. GREAVES.

SIR,—If permitted, I should like to urge through your columns the desirability of having a member for Wales. Wales is a long way from London—so far, in fact, that to the present members of the Council it might as well be in Australia—and this accounts in a very large degree for the non-adherence of many chemists in Wales to the Pharmaceutical Society. They feel that the Society is not for them because all the members of its Council are strangers; whereas a member from Wales, resident and in business in the gallant little country, would be an incentive to many to join the Society and so make it more powerful. The fact of a candidate having come forward has already induced several to join, so as to help him by their votes. Chemists in Wales in retail businesses have to earn every penny they get. There are no fancy prices or high-class dispensing-fees; store-prices rule, and the profession is nearly lost in trade. The man wanted, therefore, is one who has learnt by experience at the counter the real position of the present-day chemist. Such a one is Mr. Albert Hagon, and in urging members of the Society all over the country to support his candidature, I suggest that he is far more likely, "in his efforts to widen the scope and influence of the Society," to benefit the trade than another candidate (not a retailer) who promises "his best endeavours should be made towards forwarding the interests of the Pharmaceutical Society."

Yours faithfully,

M. P. S. (106/27.)

Father Damien.

SIR,—Père Damien was not a French priest. He was born in 1840, at Tremeloo, a small village near Louvain, and died on April 15, 1889, at Molokai. He was thus a Belgian, and, moreover, a pure Flemish man. He was not a priest, only a brother. He went from his village to Louvain, afterwards to Issy (Paris), from Issy to Hawaii. His name was Josef de Veustere.

Yours very faithfully,

Gand, April 9.

CH. DE WAELE.

"Moral Stories."

SIR,—I subjoin a cutting from a weekly publication which I think should be read by every chemist. To think that we have descended so low as to soil our fingers with the goods of a firm who can thus vilify us in the public Press passes my comprehension. For myself, although I have never kept a substitute for these pills, I intend for the future not to stock them, and if necessary explain my reasons for so doing to my customers. If

everyone did this the proprietors would soon alter their tune.

Yours faithfully,

Crouch End, N. April 12.

D. ANDERSON.

THE SHOPKEEPER WHO SHOULDN'T.

A Woman went into a shop to ask for Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People to cure her Rheumatism. "Madam," said the Shopkeeper, "I should like to Sell you something of my Own, which is Just as Good, and Cheaper."

The Woman answered him Straight Back. She said: "I have heard of you. If you wish to sell me something that is not what I asked for, it is because you can Make more Money by it. You are not here for your Health, but I Am. None of your Substitutes for Me."

"Very well, Madam," said the Shopkeeper; "and what else do you Desire?"

"Nothing," said the Woman. "I will get all my Goods at the Other Shop, where they don't try to Cheat me."

MORAL.

The Shopkeeper shouldn't try to sell Substitutes. It does not pay in the End. And the public shouldn't buy Substitutes. It doesn't pay in the Beginning nor in the End.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

106/32. Z.—Drink-cures.—Read the remarks by Dr. Cunningham in the *C. & D.*, April 2, page 535. They are wise, and you can rely upon them.

91/36. C. L. W.—Dyeing Lambs' Skins Black.—Refer to *C. & D.*, October 4, 1902, page 601, for a process. A patented method of dyeing skins much used now is with paraphenylenediamine.

106/3. Compass.—The liquid used in Ships' Compasses is methylated spirit.

85/36. W. H. B.—The manufacture of Printing-ink is one that can only be successfully carried out on a large scale. There is a chapter on printing-inks in Brant's "Varnishes, Lacquers, and Printing-inks," and we have sometimes referred to Savage's "Preparation of Printing-ink," but it is not a modern work.

102/7. E. A. W.—There have been several patents for a combined funnel and measure, but we do not know if any are on the market at the present time. The difficulty is that such a measure cannot be used for retail, as it is not a form of measure that the Board of Trade will allow to be stamped.

138/23. Gaslight.—Sensitising Postcards.—Use the formula given in the *C. & D.*, March 26, page 527, for matt gelatin paper.

65/71. P. W.—Ticket-writing Inks.—These are prepared by thickening writing-inks with gum arabic or waterglass.

65/16. Woman.—Cleaning Shop-soiled Sponges.—Usually washing in clean water is sufficient to put shop-soiled sponges again into sale-condition. If, however, your sponges are very soiled, the washing should be followed by a bath of

Potassium permanganate	3ij.
Hydrochloric acid	3 ij.
Water to	Cong. j.

This is followed by several rinsings in water and a final bath of potassium carbonate (4 oz. to the gallon).

Information Wanted.

107/46. Who supplies desiccated malt for horse-food?

24/90. Lechere's poudre de riz de Java: where obtainable?

24/90. Where can Thompson's powder for horses be obtained?

106/64. What is the composition of Sir Andrew Clark's dyspepsia-powder?

Trade Report.

NOTICE TO BUYERS.—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C. : April 14.

THE drug-auctions were resumed to-day after an interval of a month, and although there was a large accumulation of drugs the demand throughout was poor and prices were mostly in buyers' favour. Fair Zanzibar aloes in skins sold cheaply; and Curaçoa in boxes brought steady prices. Sumatra benzoin sold at unaltered rates, and for Siam there was no demand. Buchu-leaves were neglected, and a decline took place in balsam of Tolu. Cardamoms were very irregular, and prices were rather lower than those paid privately. Cascara was neglected, as was also ergot. Jamaica honey sold at full prices, and for all descriptions of ipecacuanha there was no demand whatever. Kino was forced off, and for menthol some low bids were to be submitted, which were afterwards rejected privately. Rhubarb was in large supply, but nothing was disposed of. Full prices were paid for common Tinnevely senna, and Alexandrian siftings sold cheaply. Jamaica beeswax sold at irregular but rather firmer prices, other descriptions, such as Zanzibar and Madagascar, being steady owing to scarcity. Huanoco cinchona was in good demand at steady prices. Outside of the auctions business has been quiet, the chief alterations being a decline in cod-liver oil and menthol. Makers have advanced quinine by $\frac{1}{2}d.$ only, which was a disappointment to second-hand holders. Peppermint oil has again advanced, and several American agents are without offers. Soda acetate and permanganate of potash are higher, refined camphor is easier inclined, and hydrokinone has been reduced. There has been a considerable business in shellac, and vanilla at auction was dearer. The following table shows the principal changes of the week :

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Gamboge Quinine (makers') Shellac Soda acetate Turpentine Vanilla	Oil, pepper- mint (HGH) Pot. permang.	Camphor (Jap. ref.) Cardamoms Cocoa-butter Pepper, white	Aloes (Zan.) Ammonia sulphate Balsam tolu Ginger Hydrokinone Linseed Menthol Nutmegs Oil, cod-liver Senega

ACID, TARTARIC.—Rather more inquiry has sprung up in consequence of the warmer weather. Prices are unaltered. English crystals and powder being quoted 1s. $1\frac{1}{4}d.$, and foreign 1s. $0\frac{3}{4}d.$ per lb.

ARROWROOT.—At auction 350 barrels St. Vincent sold at $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ for good manufacturing, and at $2d.$ to $2\frac{3}{4}d.$ for fine.

CHAMOMILES are steady, fairly good Belgian flowers being offered at 35s. per cwt., c.i.f.

COCOA BUTTER.—In auction 100 tons of Cadbury's brand sold at from $11\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $11\frac{3}{4}d.$ per lb., being easier; and about 8 tons of other makes sold, without reserve, at $10\frac{3}{4}d.$ to $10\frac{1}{2}d.$

ETHER.—Sulphuric is dearer, at 46s. 6d. per cwt., net, for 0.725, and 51s. 6d., net, for 0.720, in 1-cwt. quantities.

HYDROKINONE.—Schering's has been reduced 6d. per lb., to 3s. 3d. in 1-lb. boxes, and 5s. per lb. in 1-oz. boxes.

MANNA.—Prices have shown a lower tendency lately, as the demand has fallen away.

MENTHOL.—This article has fallen away to the extent of 9d. to 1s. per lb., small sales of Kobayashi crystals having been made at from 16s. 6d. to 16s. 9d. per lb. on the spot. For arrival, 16s., c.i.f., is quoted. Several large arrivals are near at hand, which fact has helped to depress the market. In the drug auctions two cases of Kobayashi and five cases of Yazawa were offered, and a bid of 15s. and 15s. 3d. per lb. respectively was to be submitted. These bids were afterwards rejected.

METHYL-SULPHONAL.—Riedel's make is quoted 12s. per lb.

OIL, CASTOR. is quiet. Hull make, for prompt delivery, is quoted 21l. 17s. 6d. per ton for medicinal in barrels, and 23d. per lb. in cases, ex wharf, London. Calcutta seconds is quoted $2\frac{1}{4}d.$ per lb.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—The improvement in the fishing at the Lofotens, and the fact that it has not yet closed, have brought about a decline of 10s. to 15s. per barrel, and agents now quote new non-congealing oil from 260s. to 280s., c.i.f. terms, for April and forward shipment. There has been a fair amount of business at these prices. Our Bergen correspondent writes on April 9 that the improvement in the cod-fishing during the past week has hardly been up to expectation. Prospects for the Finmarken fishing are, however, considered good, but the livers are very lean. The tendency of the market is a little easier, and finest non-congealing oil is obtainable at 280s. per barrel, f.o.b. Bergen. The exports from Bergen to date amount to 1,096 barrels, against 738 barrels at the corresponding period of last year.

OILS, ESSENTIAL.—The price of American HGH has advanced 3d. to 6d. on the spot, mostly on account of speculative buying, and some quantity has changed hands at from 14s. 9d. to 15s. per lb., spot, and 15s. 6d. is now asked, but probably a little could be had at 15s. 3d. *Tin* oil has also advanced, 13s. 6d. to 14s. 3d., net, being quoted for pure Wayne County oil on the spot from importers, and in second-hand 13s. would buy. Small sales of *Star-anised* oil are reported at 5s. 1d. per lb., spot. Foreign *Coriander* oil has been advanced to 21s. per lb., and for pure *Ginger* oil a reduction to 13s. per lb., net, has been made. *Citronella* oil is steady at from 1s. 2d. per lb. on the spot.

OPIMUM.—Our correspondents write us as follows :

SMYRNA, March 31.—The sales since March 18 amount to 266 cases, and, adding 230 cases sold during the previous month, the total is 496 cases, mostly tale quale of all descriptions, ranging from 7s. to 7s. 9d. per lb., c.i.f. The arrivals in Smyrna amount to 1,917 cases, against 4,993 cases at the same date of last year. All reports concerning the next crop point to it being a favourable one, and the latest advices from Salonica intimate that the plants are progressing favourably, as there has been practically no cold weather, and consequently very little damage has been done. It is thought that Salonica will yield about 3,000 cases; and as a considerable area has been sown with poppies, it is already estimated that the total harvest, including Salonica, will attain 12,000 cases. If the favourable conditions continue, the crop will be due two or three weeks before the usual time.

CONSTANTINOPLE, April 9.—The crop-prospects are at present regarded as brilliant, and we have seen estimates of a probable yield running well into five figures. We think that those who are basing themselves on a repetition of the 1901-2 crop are on the wrong tack and will ere long have reason to be disappointed. The market is very quiet, without buyers, but there is no pressure to sell. The sales for the week amount to 25 cases Druggists at 6s. 11d. per lb., f.o.b. Constantinople.

POTASH PERMANGANATE is firmer at from 32s. 6d. to 33s. per cwt. for small crystals, and 5s. more for large crystals.

There are now only three makers of this product, and they have come to an agreement. Although it is possible that prices may go still higher, the makers have to bear in mind that any considerable advance would probably provoke fresh competition from "outsiders."

QUININE.—Immediately after the bark-auctions last week the German makers advanced their prices of sulphate by $\frac{1}{2}d.$ per oz., to 1s. $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ in bulk. Howards' price for sulphate remains unchanged at 1s. $2d.$, and Whiffen's has been advanced to 1s. $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ All the makers of quinine salts have advanced their prices. It was thought that the German makers would have advanced their prices by $1d.$, and the fact that they did not do so was somewhat disappointing to second-hand holders. In second hands the market has been quiet, with a small spot business at the close of the week 1s. $0\frac{3}{4}d.$ and May at 1s. $0\frac{1}{2}d.$ per cz. This week practically no business has been done in second hands, and the market is fractionally easier, with spot sellers at 1s. $0\frac{3}{4}d.$ per oz. There has been a disposition to wait the half-monthly shipments from Java.

The Amsterdam Quinine-works have advanced their prices to-day by $1\frac{1}{2}f.$ per kilo, so that their quotations now are Ed. II. 24f. and Ed. III. 26f. per kilo.

The result of the tender held to-day at Batavia is as follows: The whole quantity, 4,005 kilos. Ed. II., sold at an average of f18.80 per kilo. (about equal 7.15 cts. Amsterdam unit), against f17.30 per kilo. at the previous tender. The next tender to be held at Batavia will take place on May 25.

SAFFRON has undergone little change recently, prices in Spain still being above the London parity. Importers quote from 35s. 6d. to 35s. per lb. for B.P., according to quality.

SEEDS.—Russian *Anise* slow of sale, at 19s. per cwt. Dutch *Caraways* quiet, at 21s. to 22s. per cwt. Morocco *Coriander* steady, at 14s. 6d. per cwt. *Canary* dull, at 59s. to 60s. per quarter for Turkish on the spot. *Cumin* firm, at 26s. to 27s. 6d. per cwt. for Morocco, and at 30s. to 32s. for Malta; but sales small. *Fenugreek* neglected; 8s. 6d. to 9s. per cwt. is the quotation. *Linsed* depressed, and little doing; fine quality can be bought at 36s. to 40s. per quarter.

SHELLAC.—On the spot small sales of TN Orange have been made on a basis of 218s. for fair, and free AC Garnet has been sold at 200s., with cakey at 194s. A fair speculative business has been done in futures at steady rates, May having been sold at 217s., July at 218s. 6d., and August at 217s. to 219s. per cwt., closing buyers at the higher prices on Wednesday. To-day the market closes 5s. dearer.

SODA ACETATE.—The makers are reported to have heavily sold, and are now holding out for an advance of 2l. to 2l. 10s. per ton. Good commercial qualities of crystals in fair shipping quantities are quoted 13l. per ton f.o.b., or 14l. ex wharf.

SPICES.—At auction 315 barrels Jamaica *Ginger* sold at a decline of 1s. to 2s. for common and ordinary, the better qualities being steady. Fair to good washed brought 42s. to 50s., medium dull to middling washed 35s. 6d. to 41s., and common to ordinary 32s. to 34s. 6d. Japanese sold, without reserve, at 22s. for limed. Fair greyish Singapore *Pepper* was bought in at $6\frac{1}{2}d.$, and good heavy Ceylon at $6\frac{1}{4}d.$ *White pepper* was $\frac{1}{4}d.$ lower, a few bags of fine Singapore selling at 10d., and 200 bags fair Siam sold, without reserve, at $8\frac{3}{4}d.$ to 9d. Penang *Cloves* sold, partly without reserve, including fair picked rather dark at $8\frac{1}{4}d.$ to $8\frac{1}{2}d.$, and damp at $6\frac{1}{2}d.$ Privately the speculative market has been quieter, sales including March-May at $7\frac{1}{2}d.$, June-August delivery at $7\frac{3}{4}d.$ to $7\frac{1}{2}d.$, closing sellers at $7\frac{3}{4}d.$ *Pimento* was quiet in auction, ordinary selling at $3\frac{1}{2}d.$ and fair at $3\frac{5}{8}d.$ *Nutmegs* were $\frac{1}{2}d.$ to 1d. lower.

VANILLA.—At auction on Friday about 300 tins were offered, and, with a good demand, practically all sold; good to fine quality realising an advance of 1s. 6d. per lb., brown and foxy being 6d. dearer.

VANILLIN.—The tone is perhaps rather better, although there are still second-hand sellers at 1s. $3\frac{1}{2}d.$, with makers asking 1s. $4\frac{1}{2}d.$ to 1s. 5d. The parcels which were bought by speculators at the beginning of the advance are now becoming gradually absorbed, and the makers hope to get their full prices presently.

London Drug-auctions.

The following table shows the amount of goods offered and sold :

	Offered	Sold		Offered	Sold
Acid, phosph. (cwt.)	$3\frac{1}{2}$...	0	Kino	37	5
Acid, tart., crystals	8 ...	0	Kola	25	0
Agar-agar	25	0	Lime-juice.....	30	17
Albumen	6 ...	0	Manaca-root	10	0
Aloes—			Mastich	9	0
Curaçao	64 ...	64	Menthol	7	0
Socotrine	30 ...	30	Musk—		
Zanzibar	52 ...	19	grain	1	0
Ambergris	2 ...	0	pod	1	0
Ammoniacum	3 ...	3	seed	2	0
Anise, star.....	2 ...	2	Myrrh	19	0
Aniseed	185 ...	40	Nux vomica	20	20
Annatto-seed	64 ...	37	Oil—		
Areca	73 ...	1	camphor.....	4	0
Argol	375 ...	0	castor	10	0
Asafetida	6 ...	0	cananga	5	0
Asphaltum	69 ...	0	cedarwood	2	0
Balsam—			citronella	1	1
Canada	11 ...	0	clove	1	0
Peru	5 ...	0	eucalyptus.....	94	0
Tolu	50 ...	38	lemongrass	45	0
Benzoin—			lime	2	0
Palembang	25 ...	0	nutmeg	4	0
Siam	21 ...	0	orange	12	0
Sumatra	187 ...	19	peppermint	16	0
Buchu	56 ...	5	rose	7	0
Calumba	68 ...	0	sassafras	5	0
Camphor—			wintergreen	3	0
crude	37 ...	15	wood	7	7
refined	31 ...	0	Ylang-ylang	1	0
Canella alba	12 ...	0	Orange-peel	27	5
Canabiss indica	3 ...	3	Pepsin (tins)	39	0
Cardamoms	576 ...	306	Quassia-wood (tors)	14	0
Cascara sagrada	230 ...	0	Quince	1	0
Cascarilla	10 ...	0	Rhatany.....	8	0
Cashew nuts	18 ...	18	Rhubarb.....	107	*4
Cassia fistula	10 ...	0	Sarsaparilla—		
Castorium	1 ...	0	grey Jamaica	28	12
Chamomiles	10 ...	0	Guatemala.....	8	0
Chiretta	8 ...	0	Honduras	4	1
Cinchona	24 ...	24	Lima	38	38
Coca-leaves	34 ...	24	Native	35	12
Cocculus ind.	20 ...	0	Scammony-root	531	0
Colocynth	56 ...	*2	Scammonium	15	0
Croton-seed	74 ...	19	Seedlac	26	26
Cubebis	108 ...	0	Senega	19	9
Cumin-seed	50 ...	0	Senna—		
Cuttle-fish bone	12 ...	0	Alex.	108	32
Dragons'-blood.....	11 ...	1	Tinnevely	195	85
Elemi	99 ...	0	Soy	41	0
Ergot	34 ...	6	Squill	11	0
Galangal	91 ...	0	Sticklac	1	0
Gamboge	8 ...	8	Strophanthus	10	0
Guaiacum	27 ...	0	Tamarinds.....	405	10
Gum acacia	142 ...	30	Tonka-beans.....	33	0
Honey—			Turmeric	291	10
Californian	50 ...	0	Vermilion	5	0
Cuban	12 ...	0	Wax (bees')—		
Honolulu	170 ...	25	Chinese	10	0
Jamaica	383 ...	131	East Indian	54	0
So. Amer.	200 ...	0	Jamaica	39	24
Ipecacuanha—			Madagascar	16	16
Cartagena	30 ...	0	Morocco	39	0
Jehore	5 ...	0	Nyassaland	13	15
Minas	9 ...	0	Zanzibar	45	27
Rio (Matto Grosso)	39 ...	0	Wax vegetable (Jap)	14	0
Jalap	39 ...	0	Zedoary-root.....	16	0

* Sold privately.

ALOES.—Fifty-two boxes of Curaçao sold at steady prices, including good bright liver at 25s. and fair liver at 22s. 6d. to 25s. 6d., and dullish mixed livery and coarse 15s. to 18s. 6d. Twelve boxes mixed dark sold without reserve at 15s. 3d. Nineteen casks of fair hard Zanzibar sold at 40s. subject to approval. Good bright stiff pasty Socotrine in kegs brought 67s. 6d. to 70s. per cwt.

AMBERGRIS.—For black balls of fair flavour 25s. per oz. was wanted.

AMMONIACUM.—Three cases good small grain to loose bold and pale tear, slightly blocky, sold at 55s. per cwt.

ANISEED.—Fair Levant sold, without reserve, at 18s. per cwt. gross for net. Two cases very broken Chinese of fair flavour sold, without reserve, at 50s. per cwt.

ANNATTO-SEED.—Good dark red from Madras and Aden sold at $3\frac{1}{2}d.$, and fair red brought $2\frac{1}{2}d.$

ARECA.—Ten bags of fair, from Ceylon, were limited at 12s. 6d. per cwt.

ARGOL.—A parcel from Buenos Ayres analysing 69.70 per cent. of crystallised acid sold at from 49s. to 50s. for dusty pink.

BALSAM, CANADA.—Good bright was held at 2s. per lb., no allowances or discount. Privately sales have been made at this figure.

BENZON.—In slow demand; a few cases of good almondy Sumatra seconds sold at 7l. 5s., and ten cases of fair almondy Sumatra seconds brought 6l. to 6l. 2s. 6d. Four cases dull brownish seconds, partly false packed, sold at 5l. 5s. per cwt. Good bold Siam almonds, part blocky, were bought in at 20l., and pea and bean size almonds and shivery block were bought in at 15l. This represented a new lot of 15 cases, which has been scarce for some months. Fair Palembang seconds were bought in at 55s. per cwt.

BUCHU.—Quiet, but steady. Fair round green sold at 8d. to $8\frac{1}{2}d.$, and stalky at $7\frac{1}{2}d.$ Long green were held at 1s. 9d.

CAMPHOR.—Twenty cases of compressed Formosa block sold, without reserve, at 290s. per cwt., and other ten cases were taken out at 350s. and seven cases crude Chinese at 260s.; thirty-one cases Japanese refined had not arrived in time for the sale. Privately there were sellers at 3s. 2d.

CANNABIS INDICA.—Three cases of fair tops without stalks sold at 4s. 3d. per lb. This is practically all the first-hand stock.

CARDAMOMS.—Considering the large quantity offered, the demand was fairly good, prices being very irregular compared with the last public sale, and rather lower than those paid privately during the intervening three weeks. The following prices were paid: Ceylon-Mysore: Good bold pale, 2s. 4d. to 2s. 5d., one lot 2s. 9d.; palish to pale, 2s. to 2s. 3d.; bold and medium good pale, 1s. 5d. to 1s. 6d.; medium palish to pale, 1s. 2d. to 1s. 4d.; medium and small palish to pale, $10\frac{1}{2}d.$ to 1s. 1d.; small, 9d. to 10d.; pickings, bold open, 1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d.; brown and split, $8\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $10\frac{1}{2}d.$; Seed, 10d. to 1s. per lb. Ceylon-Malabar: Small and medium brown, 1s. 3d.; small lean, 11d.; and brown and split, 9d. to 10d.; Seed sold at $10\frac{1}{2}d.$

CASCARA SAGRADA.—A parcel of 230 bags was bought in at 80s. per cwt. for fair one-year-old bark.

CASHEW-NUTS.—Eighteen bags from Bombay sold at from 40s. 6d. to 41s. per cwt.

CINCHONA.—Good bright Huanuco quill (24 serons) sold at 1s. 2d. and damaged at $11\frac{1}{2}d.$

COCA-LEAVES.—Ceylon sold at steady prices, seven cases of good greenish realising 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d., and fair 1s. per lb. From another catalogue ten cases of fair green sold at from 11d. to $11\frac{1}{2}d.$, being cheap.

COCCULUS INDICUS.—Twenty bags of fair, from Cochin, were bought in at 7s. 6d. per cwt.

CROTON SEED.—Nineteen bags of fair brought 20s.

CUBEBS.—For good clean blue berries 45s. was the price. Fair brown were obtainable at 35s.

DRAGONS-BLOOD.—A case of seedy Zanzibar drop, slightly blocky, brought 65s. per cwt.

ELEMI.—The price for fair white Manila is 30s. per cwt.

ERGOT.—Thirteen bags of good clean bold Spanish were limited at 1s. 7d. to 1s. 8d. per lb., and six bags of small dusty Russian sold without reserve at 1s. 3d. per lb. Privately Spanish is quoted 1s. 7d. on the spot.

GAMBOGE was about 17. per cwt. dearer. Seven cases of fair blocky Siam pipe sold at from 16l. to 16l. 2s. 6d., and pickings at 15l. per cwt.

GUM ARABIC.—Eight cases of Karachi red pickings sold at 16s. to 17s. per cwt., and four cases of yellowish picked

Trieste grains sold at 65s. Ten bales of dusty red Australian brought 18s. 6d.

HONEY.—Jamaica was in large supply and rather slow of sale, although prices showed no material alteration. Good bright pale amber syrupy in barrels sold at 26s., fair amber liquid 23s. to 25s., and dark red at 19s. to 21s. 6d. per cwt., pale yellow thick in barrels brought 23s. Good thick white pasty in barrels brought 27s. Common sold without reserve in barrels at from 15s. to 18s. 6d. Honolulu white sold at 24s. to 25s. 6d.

IPECACUANHA.—Quite neglected, not a package of any description being sold publicly. Rio (Matto Grosso) was limited at from 5s. 1d. to 5s. 3d. for dull wirey to fair bright natural. Minas was limited at 5s. per lb. and 5 bales of fair Johore were obtainable at 5s. 3d. A string of 16 bales Cartagena was held at 4s. 9d. per lb., there being no disposition to bid; and several other lots of dull grey were limited at this price.

KINO.—Five cases of fair sold, without reserve, at $3\frac{1}{2}d.$ per lb., or about $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ below the prices asked privately for fair Cochin.

LIME-JUICE.—Seventeen casks of raw West Indian sold at 1s. 2d. per gal. Privately the article is scarce, dealers quoting from 1s. 4d. to 1s. 7d. per gal., according to quality.

NUX VOMICA.—Twenty pockets of common dull earthy from Calcutta sold at 7s. 6d. per cwt.

RHATANY.—Eight bales of Peruvian were bought in at 6d. per lb.

RHUBARB.—A much larger quantity than usual was offered to-day, including a fair amount of Shensi. Although the bulk of the offerings was in first-hands there was no public demand. A few packages of medium round Shensi and trimming root had been sold privately. Bold round Shensi was held at 3s. per lb. and medium flat at 2s. 9d.

SARSAPARILLA.—Steady. Fair genuine grey Jamaica sold at from 1s. to 1s. 1d. and coarse was held at 10d. per lb. A large supply of native red Jamaica was offered and partly sold, including fair to good red $8\frac{1}{2}d.$ to 10d., and common and partly sea-damaged at 6d. to 7d. Common Guatemala was bought in at 5d. and spurious at 3d. per lb. Crown F.D. Honduras was bought in at 1s. 1d.

SCAMMONY-ROOT.—A large supply was brought to the hammer, and it was held at 20s. per cwt.

SEEDLAC.—Twenty-six packages of Madras sold at from 6l. 15s. to 7l. 15s. per cwt.

SENEGA.—Nine bags of fair sold without reserve at 2s. 8d. per lb.; privately sellers quote 2s. 9d. to 2s. 10d. net.

SENNA.—Sold at full prices for Tinnevely, the bulk of it being common small to ordinary yellowish and sea-damaged, which brought from $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ to 2d. per lb., and medium $2\frac{3}{4}d.$; for good bold greenish, slightly sea-damaged, 4d. was wanted. A few bales of fair to good medium greenish sold at 3d. to 4d. Pods sold at from $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $1\frac{3}{4}d.$ Twelve bales of fair Alexandrian siftings sold cheaply at $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ per lb.; pale pods were held at 6d.; and 20 packages of pods, leaves, and siftings sold without reserve.

SOY.—Nothing was sold in auction. Privately fair is quoted 1s. $7\frac{1}{2}d.$ per gal., duty paid, and for forward shipment 1s. 4d., c.i.f., is wanted.

TAMARINDS.—A large quantity of Barbados and Antigua tamarinds was offered, and met with a poor demand, a few barrels selling at 12s. 6d. per cwt. in bond; commoner quality offered at from 11s. to 10s.

TURMERIC.—Small sales of Bengal are reported at 9s. 6d. per cwt. on the spot.

WAX BEES'.—Jamaica wax was in fair supply and sold at steady to firmer rates, from 7l. to 7l. 7s. 6d. being paid according to quality. Nine bales of Zanzibar, mostly dark block, sold at 6l. 15s. per cwt., subject to sellers' approval; and for ordinary to common dark 6l. 7s. 6d. to 6l. 10s. per cwt. was paid. Madagascar (16) sold at from 6l. 17s. 6d. to 7l. 2s. 6d., and wormy at 6l. 10s. Thirteen packages Nyassaland brought 5l. 2s. 6d. to 5l. 5s. per cwt.

Synthetic Camphor.

It is stated that one of the best-known firms of German chemical-manufacturers are starting the preparation of synthetic camphor on a commercial scale. They hope to be in a position before long to compete successfully with the Japanese monopoly.

Norwegian Cod-liver Oil.

A North of England correspondent has received the following information from a friend who lives on an island north of the Lofoten Islands:

"As to cod-liver oil, East Lofoten seems to be a blank; but West Lofoten has yielded fish, and places a little north of us, especially Gryllefjord, have really shown fairly good results, and the fish are in fair condition. The majority of fishermen living on this island have, unfortunately, gone to East Lofoten. There have been reports of fish Finmarken way, and the Lofoten men will probably try there. The young men nearly always go there at the beginning of April."

A Quarter's Foreign Trade.

The Board of Trade Returns for March show an increase in imports of 1,775,700*l.*, and a decrease in exports of 856,400*l.*; for the quarter ending March 31 the imports advanced by 5,281,000*l.*, and the exports show the slight decline of 557,300*l.* The falling-off in the exports for the quarter is small, but it must be borne in mind that February this year contained an extra working-day, which makes the account slightly worse. It is satisfactory to note, however, that our exports of chemicals, drugs, dyes, and colours of British make are 40,800*l.* better than in the corresponding period of 1903. The figures are as follows:

	1902	1903	1904
	£	£	£
	3,136,391	3,700,513	3,741,318

The bulk of this was made up of soda compounds (1,121,856 cwt.), of which the largest amounts exported were soda ash 374,480 cwt., caustic soda 339,350 cwt., and salt-cake 210,000 cwt. A serious decline of 102,330 cwt. is noted in bleaching-powder, the United States taking 80,000 cwt. less and other countries 22,800 cwt. less. In view of the depression existing in South Africa, it is not surprising to see a falling-off in the exports of drugs and medicinal preparations for the quarter, but it is only 14,000*l.* on a total of 324,770*l.* Our exports of quicksilver for the quarter are 21,439 lbs. more; and in view of the increased interest lately shown in quinine, we present the figures relating to the imports and exports:

Imports.

	1902	1903	1904
	Oz.	Oz.	Oz.
March	8,830	43,680	61,892
Jan.-March	60,906	105,470	180,342

Exports.

	1902	1903	1904
	Oz.	Oz.	Oz.
March	37,137	90,829	88,386*
Jan.-March	130,130	199,656	165,817*
March	21,927	54,142	29,318†
Jan.-March	55,727	128,043	42,212†

* Declared as "British."

† Declared as "Foreign."

Cablegrams.

NEW YORK, April 14.—Business is fair. Opium continues dull of sale at \$2.80 per lb. in single cases. Quinine is quoted 27*c.* per oz., peppermint oil at \$3.25 and Mexican sarsaparilla at 9*c.* per lb., all being higher. Menthol is easier, at \$5.50, refined camphor has declined to 85*c.*, and cod-liver oil is easier, at \$75 per barrel. Cocaine has advanced 25*c.* per oz.

BERGEN, April 14.—The catch of cod for the whole of Norway since the beginning of the season now amounts

to 25,068,000, which has yielded 7,790 barrels of oil. At the corresponding period of last year the catch amounted to 25,458,000, which yielded 1,680 barrels of oil; and at the corresponding period of 1902, 30,325,000 cod were caught, yielding 15,543 barrels of oil. The fishing at Lofoten has considerably diminished now, and the prospects for the Finmarken fishing continue bright. The market shows an easier tone, good new non-congealing oil offering at 275*s.* per barrel, f.o.b. Bergen.

Heavy Chemicals.

Generally speaking, the volume of business passing at all principal centres of the heavy-chemical market is satisfactory. There is an increase in both home trade and export demand, and the same seems likely to be continued. As regards values there is little to be said: they are few, and those only of minor importance.

ALKALI-PRODUCE.—There is nothing new to report in this department. Bleaching-powder, caustic soda, ammonia alkali, and other main products continue to move steadily at recent rates.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA.—The late weaker tone has continued, and values show a decline from last figures. Nearest values are: Beekton, 12*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*; Beekton terms, 12*l.* 10*s.*; London, 12*l.* 10*s.* to 12*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*; Leith, 12*l.* 10*s.*; Hull, 12*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.* to 12*l.* 10*s.*

MAGNESIUM SALTS are in fair request, and otherwise without alteration. Chloride of magnesium, 62*s.* 6*d.* to 67*s.* 6*d.* per ton; magnesium sulphate (Epsoms), 57*s.* 6*d.* to 62*s.* 6*d.* per ton; carbonate of magnesia, 37*s.* 6*d.* to 40*s.* per cwt.

ZINC SALTS.—In fairly brisk demand and steady. Zinc-sulphate crystals, 6*l.* to 6*l.* 5*s.* per ton; zinc-chloride solution, 100° Tw., 6*l.* 5*s.* to 6*l.* 10*s.* per ton.

GREEN COPPERAS continues to move steadily both on home and export account. Best Lancashire makes, 37*s.* 6*d.* to 40*s.* per ton, f.o.b. Liverpool, and Welsh, 11*s.* to 12*s.* per ton, in bulk, free on rails.

RECOVERED SULPHUR continues to maintain a strong position at unaltered values of 5*l.* 5*s.* to 5*l.* 15*s.* per ton, in bags, free on rails, according to delivery, &c.

Liverpool Drug-market.

Liverpool, April 13.

CASTOR OIL.—Good seconds Calcutta has been in rather better inquiry, retail sales having been made at 2½*d.* lb. Sales are reported of 200 cases to arrive, April, May, June shipment, at 2½*d.* First-pressure French remains unchanged at late rates.

KOLA.—Twenty-six bags of dry sold at auction at 3*d.* to 3½*d.* per lb.

COCHIN GINGER.—A recent arrival of 100 bags new crop has changed hands at 28*s.* per cwt. from the quay.

CANARY SEED.—Rather weaker at 57*s.* 6*d.* per quarter.

TURPENTINE remains steady at 42*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.

AFRICAN GINGER.—Ten tons new crop sold from the quay at 22*s.* per cwt.

CHILES (SIERRA LEONE).—Fifty bage have been sold at 42*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.

BEESWAX.—Seventeen packages of Chilian have been sold at 6*l.* 10*s.* to 7*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* per cwt., according to quality.

CHILIAN HONEY.—Ten barrels Pile I. have been sold at 24*s.* and forty barrels Pile X. at 26*s.* Reports from the coast state that the crop this year is very poor and small, and that there is likely to be a shortage.

BALSAM COPAIBA.—There has been a further arrival of six barrels. Recent arrivals of Maranham are held firmly at 1*s.* 7*d.* to 1*s.* 7½*d.* per lb.

CARNAUBA WAX.—There have been further sales of grey at 120*s.*, and holders now ask 122*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. For yellow 130*s.* to 135*s.* per cwt. is asked.

FENNEL-SEED is quoted at 14*s.* 3*d.* to 14*s.* 9*d.* per cwt., according to quality.

SENEGA.—The price in Hamburg is rather easier, at 2*s.* 10½*d.*; 3*s.* per lb. is still quoted by New York agents.

A CHEMIST'S WILL DISPUTE.—On April 14, in the Probate Division of the High Court, the case of *Prichard v. Hughes* was commenced. It referred to the will of the late Mr. Hugh Griffith Hughes, of Holyhead, who died last year. It was alleged by the granddaughter that Mary Elizabeth Hughes (the only surviving daughter) had obtained the will in her favour by fraud. The Judge pronounced for the will, and found there was no fraud on the part of Mary Elizabeth Hughes.

Metallic Contamination in Citric and Tartaric Acids and their Salts.

By CHARLES T. BENNETT, F.C.S., Pharmaceutical Chemist.

(A communication from Messrs. Wright, Layman & Umney's Analytical Laboratories.)

A NUMBER of prosecutions under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts recently tend to emphasise the necessity for the fixing of definite standards for the limitation of poisonous impurities in the above-named substances. The tests for lead have received considerable attention in the past, and the following is a brief *résumé* of the standards hitherto proposed.

In the British Pharmacopœia, 1885, no test was given for lead in cream of tartar. For citric and tartaric acids the test read: "A solution of the acid is not affected by sulphuretted hydrogen." In the British Pharmacopœia, 1898, first edition, the test for cream of tartar reads: "It should yield no characteristic reaction with the tests for lead, copper, or iron." It is said that citric acid "should yield no characteristic reaction with the tests for copper or iron. . . . 10 grams dissolved in 20 c.c. of water neutralised with solution of ammonia and sufficient of a saturated aqueous solution of hydrogen sulphide added to produce 100 c.c. of liquid, no darkening of colour should result after five minutes (absence of lead)." In the later editions the word "neutralised" has been made to read "nearly neutralised," as it was pointed out by Mr. David Howard (*C. & D.*, 1898, i., page 675) that if carried out as prescribed in a neutral solution, traces of iron would appear as lead. As to tartaric acid, the British Pharmacopœia says it "should yield no characteristic reaction with the tests for copper, arsenium, and iron. . . . and no reaction by the test for lead described under citric acid."

A method by which the effect of iron may be eliminated was suggested by Dr. Teed ("Analyst," xvii., page 142-3), and consists in converting the iron into a ferro- or ferri-cyanide (which is not affected by ammonium sulphide) by treatment with potassium cyanide.

In 1895 Mr. R. Warington, in a paper read before the Society of Chemical Industry ("J. S. C. I.," xii., pages 97-104 and 222-5), stated that, in his opinion, the proportion of lead in citric and tartaric acids should not exceed 5 parts per million, and recommended a process for its estimation. In a further note, published in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST (June 4, 1898), Mr. Warington stated that, by testing the *unneutralised* acids with solution of sulphuretted hydrogen, 0.0005 per cent. of lead may be detected in tartaric acid, and 0.0002 per cent. in citric acid, while in *alkaline* solution 0.0001 per cent. may be detected by the test prescribed in the first edition of the British Pharmacopœia, 1898. He went on to say that the latter was unnecessarily strict, and represented a degree of purity extremely difficult for manufacturers to attain on a large scale.

It must, therefore, be recognised that it is practically impossible to obtain tartaric and citric acids, on a commercial scale, absolutely free from lead. The best available samples contain from 10 to 30 parts per million, while some contain as much as 50 parts per million, or about $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. in 1 lb.

The smallest proportion on which a prosecution has been based, and which was considered to be injurious to health (in the case of cream of tartar), is $\frac{3}{4}$ gr. in 1 lb., or about 100 parts per million, but it is desirable that the limit should be fixed as low as possible and strict supervision kept on all samples purchased.

The following simple test, suggested by Mr. J. C. Umney in his paper on "Standards for Medicines" ("P. J." and *C. & D.*, November 15, 1902, page 824), serves for the detection of dangerous quantities of lead:

One gram dissolved in 5 c.c. solution of ammonia (10 per cent.) and 5 c.c. of saturated solution of sulphuretted hydrogen added, the mixture should not acquire more than a slight yellowish coloration.

The test should be performed in a test-tube, and the colour of the liquid observed from above, over a sheet of white paper. No attempt is made to eliminate the effect of iron, and as there must be some slight ambiguity as to the amount of colour permissible, a direct estimation and the adoption of a definite maximum limit would be far preferable. The following modification of the Warington process, which has given good results in my hands, is therefore proposed for the estimation of lead in citric and tartaric acids and cream of tartar:

Ten grams is dissolved in 15 c.c. of distilled water, 25 c.c.* of solution of ammonia (10 per cent.) added, and made up to 50 c.c. One drop of solution of sodium sulphide (10 per cent.) is added, and the coloration produced is matched in Nessler glasses by adding from a burette a standard solution of lead acetate (containing 0.0001 gram of lead in 1 c.c.) to 50 c.c. of distilled water containing a drop of sodium-sulphide solution. Each tenth part of 1 c.c. will then represent 1 part of lead per million.

If iron be present, the addition of 1 c.c. of a 10-per-cent. solution of potassium cyanide is necessary, copper also being eliminated since copper sulphide is soluble in potassium cyanide. A yellow coloration is often caused by the addition of the cyanide, but this gradually disappears on warming. If only slight, it may be matched before adding the sodium sulphide, and the amount of standard lead solution so used deducted from the total quantity required. It is essential that the solution should be distinctly alkaline, or the full colour is not developed.

Sodium sulphide is much preferable to either sulphuretted hydrogen or ammonium sulphide, as no turbidity or coloration is produced in the absence of metals, while its freedom from odour is also a distinct advantage.

With regard to the proportion of lead which may be considered harmless, in my opinion a maximum of 25 parts per million (or approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. in 1 lb.) would be a reasonable standard. This might be reduced later to 10 parts per million as greater care is taken by the manufacturers.

The presence of $\frac{1}{30}$ gr. of lead in 10 oz. of lemonade found by the Somerset House authorities (see "P. J.," xv., page 279) has been held to be non-injurious, and, comparing quantities which would ordinarily be consumed, this represents about 4 gr. in 1 lb. of tartaric or citric acid, assuming a pint of lemonade to be equivalent to three times the maximum dose of tartaric or citric acid.

Tartarated soda invariably contains traces of lead. On account of its comparatively large dose and its wide distribution in the form of seidlitz powders, it is important that the proportion of lead shall be as small as possible. A degree of purity corresponding to a maximum standard of 10 parts per million ought to be easily obtainable.

The presence of arsenic in cream of tartar has lately been the subject of prosecutions, and samples containing $\frac{1}{30}$ gr. in 1 lb. have been condemned. Mr. Bird's modification of Gutzeit's method gives excellent quantitative results, which show that few samples are absolutely free, while many of the purest specimens contain $\frac{1}{100}$ to $\frac{1}{50}$ gr. per lb. The latter figure might probably be safely adopted as a maximum until such time as absolute freedom can be obtained by manufacturers.

* For cream of tartar 10 c.c. of solution of ammonia is sufficient.

CHEMICALS to the value of 43,507*l.* were exported from Baltimore during 1903.

MESSRS. J. & A. CHURCHILL, 7 Great Marlborough Street, W., inform us that during this month they are publishing a new work on "The Elements of Chemistry," by Mr. Pattison Muir. The preface states that the objects of the book are "to present some of the fundamental facts, generalisations, principles, and theories of chemistry, lucidly, methodically, and suggestively; to train the student in the methods of investigation and reasoning which have been used in the past, and the methods which are used to-day, for discovering and co-ordinating a few of the connections between the properties and the compositions of systems of homogeneous substances; to attempt to lay the foundations of chemistry in such a way that the student may be prepared for going more deeply into the science if he wishes so to do."

South African News.

(From our own Correspondents.)

Note.—THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is regularly supplied by order to all the members of all the Pharmaceutical Societies in British South Africa, viz.:

SOUTH AFRICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.
PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF CAPE COLONY.
NATAL PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.
TRANSVAAL PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.
RHODESIA PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.
NORTHERN DISTRICT CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.
PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF ORANGE RIVER COLONY.

Cape Colony.

DURING 1903 the imports of drugs and chemicals into Cape Colony amounted in value to 365,000*l.*, against 422,000*l.* for the corresponding period of 1902.

MR. J. M. GOODENOUGH, chemist and druggist, has opened the Plumstead Pharmacy at Wynberg. The fittings have been supplied throughout by Messrs. S. Maw, Son & Sons.

Orange River Colony.

THE MEDICAL AND PHARMACY ORDINANCE.—“The Government Gazette” of March 11 contained a proclamation by the Acting Lieutenant-Governor, stating that Section 4, dealing with the election of Council, came into force on that date.

MEDICAL AND PHARMACY COUNCIL.—The following gentlemen have been nominated by the Lieutenant-Governor as members of this Council:

Medical Practitioners.

Arthur Blackwood Ward, Esq., M.B., B.C. (Cantab.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Lond.).

Petrus Gerhardus Pretorius, Esq., M.B., C.M. (Edin.).

The Medical Officer of Health of the Orange River Colony for the time being. [At present George Pratt Yule, Esq., M.D. (Edin.), B.Sc. (Edin.).]

Dentist.

Stuart James Redpath, Esq., L.D.S. (R. Coll. Surg., Eng.)

Chemists and Druggists.

Walter Flint, Esq., Chemist and Druggist.

Strafford Smith Hewitt, Esq., Chemist and Druggist.

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society has nominated Mr. John Main, chemist and druggist (formerly of Laurencekirk, N.B.), of Messrs. Peterson & Co., as the direct representative of chemists on the Medical and Pharmacy Council, and when the last mail left it was expected that he would be returned unanimously. The date for nominations was April 7, on which day four medical practitioners were also to be nominated.

THE PHARMACEUTICAL LEADERS.—Now that pharmacy matters in the Colony have settled down, and the Govern-

ment Council have to face internal problems which will require a lot of work before they are solved, something ought to be said of those who engineered the pharmacy clauses, and especially the company clause, through the Legislature. Mr. Walter Flint, the President of the Society and one of the first members of the Medical and Pharmacy Council, went to South Africa shortly after passing the Minor examination in July, 1892, and he now has charge of the business of Messrs. Lennon (Limited) in Bloemfontein. He is a good pharmacist, a smart business man, and to his perspicuity is largely due the passing of the company clause. Along with the Messrs. Hewitt he interviewed the Acting Colonial Secretary and the Attorney-General, who were convinced that legislation on the proposed lines would be good for the Colony. Mr. S. S. Hewitt, the Vice-President of the Society, is a brother of the Secretary. He was born in the North of England, and was apprenticed to Mr. James Buckle, of Malton. He passed the Minor examination in 1893, and was five years with Messrs. John Bell & Co., of Oxford Street, before he went out to South Africa. Mr. J. F. Hewitt, the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer of the Society, was born in York, and was apprenticed to the late Mr. J. Coupland, of Harrogate. He qualified in 1889, and was an assistant with Messrs. Young & Postans, Baker Street, and with Messrs. Godfrey & Cooke, Conduit Street. We note that these gentlemen and those associated with them on the Council do not confine their efforts to legislation, for on March 26 they gave an excellent smoking-concert.

Rhodesia.

THE ADMISSION OF DUTY-FREE SPIRIT into Southern Rhodesia has already been alluded to (see *C. & D.*, March 5, page 406). The Government notice relating to the subject notifies that from January 1, 1904, a rebate of the whole of the Customs duty payable upon importation or removal from a bonded warehouse may (subject to certain Customs regulations) be granted on methylated spirit or alcohol imported solely for manufacturing or scientific purposes within Rhodesia. The Customs regulations referred to provide, further, that before a rebate of duty upon methylated spirit shall be granted the importer shall submit a sample to the Controller of Customs, together with a declaration as to the proportions or quantities of the various substances or materials which have been added to the spirit for the purpose of rendering it impotable. Methylated spirit is not to be purified in any manner, or recovered by distillation or any other means, or used in the preparation of any article capable of being used wholly or partially as a beverage or internally as a medicine (human or veterinary). Before a rebate of duty on alcohol (or rectified spirit of wine) imported solely for manufacturing or scientific purposes within Rhodesia shall be granted, the person desiring to use the same must make application in writing to the Controller of Customs for authority to receive and use such spirit free of duty, and must prove to the satisfaction of the Controller of Customs that the use of methylated spirit would be unsuitable.



MR. S. S. HEWITT.



MR. W. FLINT.



MR. J. F. HEWITT.

Radio-active Minerals.

New Elements Discovered.

LAST week we called attention to the work done in the Imperial Institute Laboratories on a mineral from Ceylon, which is characterised by radio-activity and high content of thorium, and we commented upon the resemblance between this mineral and one under examination by Sir William Ramsay, in which a hitherto unknown element has been discovered. Sir William has communicated the following particulars about it to "Nature" of April 7:

In the beginning of February I bought from Mr. Holland 5 cwt. of the mineral described by Professor Dunstan in last week's "Nature" (page 510). It crystallises in cubes, and the density is substantially that found by him. Mr. Tyrer, of the Stirling Chemical-works, Stratford, was so kind as to promise to work it up for me, and the process is still being carried on.

I had hoped to have positive and definite results to communicate before describing its constituents, but the publication by Professor Dunstan of an analysis, and his statement that he is still engaged in its investigation, makes it necessary to write this letter.

The mineral, when heated alone, gives off 3.5 c.c. of helium per gram; fused with hydrogen potassium sulphate, the amount is increased to 9.5 c.c. From this source I have already stored about 12 cubic feet of pure helium extracted in Mr. Tyrer's works.

It was at first believed that the mineral was rich in uranium, but different specimens contain only from 8 to 12 per cent. of that element, agreeing in this respect with the analyses published by Professor Dunstan. Next, the other main constituent was believed to be zirconium, but the high density of the mineral rendered this improbable. An analyst of high standing, whose daily business it is to analyse minerals of this kind, returned 82 per cent. of zirconia as a constituent; the percentage of thorium was trifling—under 1 per cent. The mineral contains practically no thorium; this has been repeatedly confirmed in my laboratory. Nor does it contain any appreciable amount of cerium, lanthanum, and didymium. The oxalate is almost completely soluble in excess of ammonium oxalate—a reaction which excludes thorium and the cerium group, but which points to zirconium. The equivalent of the elements of the oxalate group, which I at first took for zirconium, excludes the presence of any large quantity of zirconium, although that element is undoubtedly present. Fractionation shows that the oxalate precipitate (the portion soluble in ammonium oxalate) gives equivalents between 25.0 (the most insoluble portion of the double sulphate) and 44.7 (the most soluble portion); by far the major part of the element has the last-mentioned equivalent. The separation of this portion is now being carried out with large quantities of material; several hundredweights are being worked up.

Assuming that the element is a tetrad, which is probable from its behaviour, it undoubtedly possesses an equivalent approaching the highest number (44.7), and for this there is a gap in the periodic table between cerium and thorium; one at least of the elements present (supposing that there is more than one present) will probably have an atomic weight of about 177, preceding tantalum (182.5) in the horizontal row of the periodic table.

I am at present engaged in mapping the spectrum of this new body or bodies.

As for the radio-activity, the mineral was bought in the hope that it would have a high content of radium. There is a trace of radium present, due, no doubt, to the spontaneous change of the uranium which the mineral contains. But the radio-activity due to this source is certainly not 5 per cent. of the total.

The period of decay of the emanation appears to point to the presence of a radio-active element closely resembling thorium X. The half value is 50 or 51 seconds, and while this is not quite the time for the decay of thorium emanation, it very nearly approaches it; at present the balance of evidence appears to point to the presence of an element closely resembling thorium, but not identical with it. The total radio-activity, moreover, is much greater than can be accounted for by the supposition that the one consists of pure thorium. Within the limits of a letter I am obliged to omit many more characteristics of this curious ore which have been ascertained, but I hope soon to be able to publish more definite results; as it is, I regret to have been obliged to tell an imperfect story.

I should like to conclude by acknowledging the great assistance given me in this work by Mr. Tyrer and by my students, Messrs. Gimingham and Le Rossignol.

PROFESSOR BASKERVILLE'S RESEARCH.

Sir William Ramsay's discovery has been quickly followed by another—in the United States. The following is a cablegram from the New York correspondent of the "Standard":

NEW YORK, Sunday Night.

Dr. Baskerville, a Professor at the University of North Carolina, announces the most important discovery ever made by an American chemist. By distilling thorium oxide in a quartz tube with carbon and chlorine, he produces substances of specific gravities and atomic weights differing from those of substances in use. What he calls berziliun appears in a greenish vapour, which he condenses. Carolinium adheres to the quartz in crystals, leaving a certain remnant of thorium. The importance lies less in adding two more to the seventy odd elements than in adding two to half-a-dozen known radio-active, self-luminous substances. Dr. Baskerville has 5 grams of the pinkish powder called after his State, and 2½ grams of the greenish powder which takes its name from Berzilius, who saw its vapour without identifying or solidifying it. Thorium oxide is white, and North Carolina produces half a million dollars' worth annually.

Dr. Baskerville is concerned only with the scientific aspects of his studies, which have engrossed him since his graduation in 1890. He is now thirty-three years of age. Commentators discover a commercial value in the application of the new form to illumination, possibly leading to some new departure like gas-mantles. In some experiments before the Chemists' Club, carolinium and berziliun each glowed through enclosing tubes of copper, brass, rubber, iron, and glass, all covered with cloth. Whether the world can supply any other source of the discovered substances than North Carolina's monazite sand is an interesting question.

Professor Charles Baskerville, B.Sc., Ph.D., F.C.S., is known in this country, and an admirable revision by him of the literature on "The Elements: Verified and Unverified," is now appearing in the "Chemical News." He has also worked on the rare earths. The "Standard" account of his "two new elements" is too vague to permit a comparison between his observations and Sir William Ramsay's, but the latter, interviewed by the "Daily Express" representative, said:

I certainly regard Professor Baskerville's discovery as an important one, though I cannot say I was surprised at the news. I have known for some time that Professor Baskerville has been conducting these experiments, and that it was not unlikely that new elements would be discovered. Experiments of a kindred nature are being conducted by myself, and now that the new instrument, the electroscope, facilitates these researches, it is possible that other elements may be discovered.

Of course, radium has a similar luminosity, but these elements have a better chance. In the first place, a larger quantity can be obtained, and accordingly—simply because you have more of them—you get a greater luminosity than from radium. Then, again, thorium, from which they are obtained, has a commercial value apart from the new elements. It is used in the making of incandescent mantles. So that if one has a quantity of thorium he can work it to commercial profit in this way, and get these elements from the spare matter.

The luminosity of these elements will probably have a medical value, though perhaps not much commercial value. It may be, however, that they might enable the incandescent mantles to throw a much more brilliant light. The advantage radium has over the new elements is that the latter are not nearly so permanent.

Sir William approved the plan of Mr. Glew, the Clapham chemist, who lets out at 2s. 6d. an hour a tube of radium to doctors. "There is so little radium," he said, "that it appears a good way of extending its use. I do not think there is much danger of misuse in unskilled hands. If applied to the skin for too long, burns, or dermatitis, might result, but if used discreetly there is little danger. There is not enough of it to allow of ill-results generally."

LIQUORICE-ROOT to the value of 38,300*l.* was imported into Baltimore during 1903, an increase of 9,722*l.* as compared with 1902.

Stamped=medicine Notes.

More Confectionery Descriptions.

We are indebted to Messrs. Meggeson & Co. (Limited) for the subjoined copies of labels and handbills which have been marked, as undernoted, by the Board of Inland Revenue. The words which create liability are printed in italics:

DIGESTIVE OR DINNER TABLETS.

Composed of Rhubarb, Ginger, Cardamoms, and other Stomachic and *Anti-acid* Ingredients.

The advantage of the administration of rhubarb in small doses is well known. To extend the use of this valuable medicine, and obviate the inconvenience and to most persons extremely disagreeable habit of taking it in the form of pills, these lozenges have been prepared. They combine all the well-known stomachic *anti-acid* and useful properties of the several ingredients in a very portable form, and so agreeable to the palate as to be relished by the most delicate or nervous person.

(Liable to duty.)

DIGESTIVE OR DINNER TABLETS.

Composed of Rhubarb, Ginger, Cardamoms, and other Valuable Ingredients.

The advantage of the administration of rhubarb in small doses is well known.

The object in preparing these lozenges is to obviate the inconvenient and to most persons extremely disagreeable habit of taking it in the form of pills or powder.

They combine all the useful properties of the several ingredients in a very portable form, and so agreeable to the palate as to be relished by the most delicate or nervous person.

(Not liable to duty.)

DIGESTIVE DINNER TABLETS.

Composed of Rhubarb, Ginger, Cardamoms, and other Stomachic and *Anti-acid* Ingredients. These tablets possess in an agreeable and portable form all the *corrective* and useful properties of these well-known medicines.

(Liable to duty.)

PURE GLYCERINE PASTILLES.

A pleasant and most agreeable form of applying Glycerine to the throat, air-passages, and vocal organs.

Pure Glycerine is here combined with the finest picked White Gum Arabic in a concentrated form, which supplies a portable and ready means of using it to the greatest possible advantage.

They are perfectly safe and harmless in any quantity to children or adults.

(Not liable to duty.)

Points from Labels.

"CRACKED HANDS" is not considered by the Board of Inland Revenue to be an ailment. A *C. & D.* subscriber has just elicited this fact. (104/48.)

"HEALING" AND "PURIFYING."—A glycerine and rose-water contains the following paragraph:—

It combines the healing properties of glycerine with the cooling and purifying qualities of rose-water, the addition of the latter also preventing the disagreeable smarting which is experienced when glycerine alone is used.

The Board have marked the label "Not liable to stamp-duty." The label was submitted before the Board had declared that they do not regard the word "healing" in itself as involving liability. (104/48.)

A ROSEMARY HAIR-WASH label states that the "wash bestows a delightful feeling of coolness, and removes one of the most frequent causes of heaviness and headache." This, the Board say, is liable to duty. It is a good instance of carrying a recommendation of a toilet-preparation too far. (102/25.)

DIRECTIONS ON ALTERED LABELS.—We notice in many labels submitted to us, in which ailment-names have been

altered to descriptive names (e.g., "Toothache Essence" changed to "Dental Essence"), that old directions are not always altered, and sometimes there is an expression in these which is now dutiable—e.g., "Apply to the hollow of the aching tooth." Directions for salicylic collodion still tell people to apply it to the corn. A soothing-syrup label orders the medicine to be taken "until free from pain." These four words make the medicine liable, and they are really unnecessary. Labels for B.P. preparations also offend—e.g., "Spirits of Sal Volatile. Dose.—A teaspoonful in water, in faintings, &c." This label has always been liable, but now any registered chemist may use it without stamp-duty if he puts "B.P." after "Sal Volatile."

BODY-NAME LABELS.—The fact appears to be overlooked by many that a *reference on a label* bearing a body-name title to the manner in which the medicine acts upon the organ of the body makes the medicine liable. The Board gave examples with such words as prefixes—e.g., "Aperient liver-pills." Nevertheless such forms as the following are also dutiable:—

THROAT-LOZENGES.

ASTRINGENT AND HEALING.

"BALSAMIC THROAT-PELLETS" has been declared by the Board to be a non-liable title.

New Books.

A B C Medical Guide. With valuable Hints for the Preservation of Health. Ed. by Alexander Ambrose. 5½ x 4. Pp. 252. 1s. (Drane.)

Bedford, C. H. *Clinical Handbook of Urine-analysis.* Illus. 2nd. ed. 9 x 5½. Pp. 182. 6s. 6d. net. (Simpkin.)

Boone, W. T. *Safe Course in Experimental Chemistry.* 7 x 4½. Pp. 188. 2s. (Univ. Tut. Series.) (Clive.)

Bottone, S. R. *Radium, and all about it.* 8vo. 1s. net. (Whittaker.)

Chemistry Papers (Matriculation), June, 1875, to January, 1904. Cr. 8vo. swd. 1s. 6d. (Clive.)

Cutler, J. *On Passing off; or, Illegal Substitution of Goods of one Trader for Goods of another Trader.* Cr. 8vo. swd. 1s. net. (Gay & B.)

French, W., Boardman, T. H. *Practical Chemistry.* Part 2. 7½ x 4½. Pp. 140. 1s. 6d. (Methuen.)

Gibbons, E. E. *The Eye: Its Refraction and Diseases.* 4to. 2ls. net. (Macmillan.)

International Homœopathic Medical Directory for 1904. 6½ x 4½. Pp. 121. 2s. net. (Homœopathic Publishing Co., 12 Warwick Lane, E.C.) [This is a list of the medical men throughout the world who practise homœopathy, and contains also a list of homœopathic chemists. From the latter we gather that there are in this country seventy-six firms of homœopathic chemists; but, of course, the number of chemists who sell homœopathic remedies is much greater.]

Lewes, V. B. *Service Chemistry: Short Manual of Chemistry and its Applications in Naval and Military Services.* 8½ x 5½. Pp. 574. 15s. (H. Glaiser.)

Priestly, J. *Memoirs. Written by himself, to year 1795. With a continuation to time of his decease.* By his Son, Joseph Priestly. Reprinted from edition of 1809. 7½ x 5. Pp. 140. 3s. net. (Allenson.)

Symes, J. O. *Bacteriology of Every-day Practice.* 7½ x 4½. Pp. 108. 2s. 6d. net. (Baillière.)

Von Schwartz. *Fire and Explosion Risks.* A handbook dealing with the detection, investigation, and prevention of dangers arising from fires and explosions of chemico-technical substances and establishments. Trans. by C. T. C. Salter. 9 x 6½. Pp. 357. 16s. net. (C. Griffin & Co.)

In 1902 the United Kingdom supplied 36 per cent. of the total imports into the Argentine Republic. Exports to England amounted to 19½ per cent. of the total in the same year.

ASSAM TEA-PLANTERS are seeking to form a combination to sell tea refuse, sweepings, and waste tea at a collecting agency, only under a guarantee that the stuff is used for chemical purposes alone.